

THE TIMES

Bernard Levin: Make
Mr Heath an offer
he cannot refuse, p 14

12 Ulster bombs in 24 hours as IRA flout ceasefire

Provisional IRA yesterday sustained and widespread riot bombing for the first time the ceasefire on February 10, east 12 bombs exploded in northern Ireland within 24 hours, ng severe injuries and damage. ndon Lord Donaldson made

Rees denial on 'deal' document

British Government's official policy in Northern Ireland... Christopher Walker... Lord Donaldson... The Irish Government... The existence of various documents... The Government has been fully aware since before the renewed IRA ceasefire of the existence of 12 points of view... The Government has been fully aware since before the renewed IRA ceasefire of the existence of 12 points of view... The Government has been fully aware since before the renewed IRA ceasefire of the existence of 12 points of view...



Life study: Former President Richard Nixon working on his memoirs at his home in San Clemente, California.

TUC to draw up own plan on jobless

By Paul Rowlings
Labour Editor... The Trades Union Congress is to draw up its own priorities for halting the rise in unemployment after union leaders yesterday expressed private doubts about the Government's proposals for action... The Trades Union Congress is to draw up its own priorities for halting the rise in unemployment after union leaders yesterday expressed private doubts about the Government's proposals for action...

Tory leader urges unity of action on inflation

From Fred Emery
Chicago, Sept 22... Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition, today proposed that a Declaration of Interdependence be drawn up to govern world economic relations and to meet the threat of runaway inflation... Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition, today proposed that a Declaration of Interdependence be drawn up to govern world economic relations and to meet the threat of runaway inflation...

Ten-year Ford plan to set US free from oil-producing nations

From Frank Vogt
US Economics Correspondent
Washington, Sept 22... President Ford announced today that he will ask the Congress to establish an entire new \$50,000m government corporation to ensure that the United States reaches energy independence within the next 10 years... President Ford announced today that he will ask the Congress to establish an entire new \$50,000m government corporation to ensure that the United States reaches energy independence within the next 10 years...

Middle East 'talks for all' proposed by US

From Peter Strafford
New York, Sept 22... Dr Kissinger, the American Secretary of State, today set out his proposed steps to the United States in the Middle East... Dr Kissinger, the American Secretary of State, today set out his proposed steps to the United States in the Middle East...

Former RAF officer accused in humdrum and sordid spy story

John Chatter... Mr. Silkin... The Crown... The RAF... The case... The evidence... The trial... The verdict... The sentence...

Government arts aid study

The Prime Minister has asked Mr. Lever, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, to take a thorough assessment of the financial difficulties facing the arts... The Prime Minister has asked Mr. Lever, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, to take a thorough assessment of the financial difficulties facing the arts...

On other pages

Features, page 14 and 16... Ian Smart on the dangers of regarding North Sea oil as Britain's... Ian Smart on the dangers of regarding North Sea oil as Britain's... Ian Smart on the dangers of regarding North Sea oil as Britain's...

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nm sets face inst rises EEC budget

Germany argued strongly against rises in the EEC budget for 1976... Germany argued strongly against rises in the EEC budget for 1976... Germany argued strongly against rises in the EEC budget for 1976...

Dr Soares aims to destroy capitalism

Dr Mario Soares, the Portuguese socialist leader, told The Times in a Lisbon interview that "our programme is not a programme to correct the most unjust aspects of capitalism but to destroy capitalism... Dr Mario Soares, the Portuguese socialist leader, told The Times in a Lisbon interview that "our programme is not a programme to correct the most unjust aspects of capitalism but to destroy capitalism...

Anglo-Soviet studies of heart disease

Research into influenza and diseases of the heart and eye will be given priority by medical experts from Britain and the Soviet Union under a newly formed joint committee on cooperation in medicine and public health... Research into influenza and diseases of the heart and eye will be given priority by medical experts from Britain and the Soviet Union under a newly formed joint committee on cooperation in medicine and public health...

Vice trial sentences

Sentencing five men in a homosexual prostitution trial at the Central Criminal Court yesterday, Judge King-Williams, QC, said he hoped Westminster City Council would try to put an end to the "public scandal" going on around the playland amusement arcade near Piccadilly... Sentencing five men in a homosexual prostitution trial at the Central Criminal Court yesterday, Judge King-Williams, QC, said he hoped Westminster City Council would try to put an end to the "public scandal" going on around the playland amusement arcade near Piccadilly...

Hirohito interview

Emperor Hirohito, of Japan, refused to dispel any of the mystery surrounding his role in the Pacific war when he met foreign journalists... Emperor Hirohito, of Japan, refused to dispel any of the mystery surrounding his role in the Pacific war when he met foreign journalists...

diplomatic on Sinai talks

Israeli military working group... diplomatic on Sinai talks... Israeli military working group... diplomatic on Sinai talks... Israeli military working group...

HOME NEWS

Police chief calls for ban on free pop music festivals

Ratepayers will have to pay at least £100,000 for police operations at Windsor, at Reading pop festival and at Watchfield free festival last month, Mr David Holdsworth, chief Constable of Thames Valley Police, said in a report to be presented to the local authority this week. More than 1,000 policemen were on duty during the nine days, including the August Bank holiday weekend.

Calling for a ban on free festivals, Mr Holdsworth says: "In my opinion it would be uneconomical for central government to become involved again in searching for a suitable site for another 'free' festival. If four thousand to eight thousand people in this country want to do their own thing, let them do it at their own risk and expense. If however, central government feel obliged to enter the free festival arena again, I must, on behalf of the Thames Valley Police, make the plea that no site be offered in this area. We've had enough of free festivals."

One effect of the decision to offer the site at Watchfield was to cause a great many people representing local government and other organisations to become involved in helping what the chief constable describes as "a squalid, uncivilized, noisy, dirty, drug-infested free festival" to take place. For their size, free festivals caused a disproportionate amount of trouble. The new society which they may be said to embody afforded few apparent compensations, Mr Holdsworth adds. They were far from free and he wondered if the public were really prepared to go on meeting the considerable cost of the police manpower involved in looking after those unedifying gatherings.

Discussing the lessons learnt from the previous Windsor festivals, Mr Holdsworth declares: "The Thames Valley

Police learnt that they must take seriously the seemingly idiotic noises and threats which issue from the communes; and not to treat as a joke their claims to be the architects of a new society through revolution."

The police also learnt that a policy of containment of an illegal festival was likely in the end to cause more difficulties than a policy of strict enforcement of the law. He hoped that the people of the communes had learnt that the public and the courts had little sympathy for public displays of anarchy.

He acknowledged that the offer of the Watchfield site this year made it unlikely that there would be a large-scale confrontation in Windsor Great Park, but the offer placed a heavy burden on the police at Windsor, Reading and Watchfield which required officers to work 12-hour tours of duty. Mr Holdsworth gave what he described as a short version of what the organizers of the 1974 festival had said: "Come to Windsor Great Park and copulate under the influence of drugs."

Because there were no facilities, the organizers should have added: "You'll have to empty your bowels and bladders where other people rest and eat." Bill for ratepayers: Thames Valley Police have put in a bill to the ratepayers of £87,000 for keeping an eye on the Watchfield free pop festival in August (our Reading Correspondent writes). It will be shared by the three counties served by the force. Yesterday it was announced that Berkshire will have to meet 40 per cent, £26,800. Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire will each pay £20,100.

On top of the cost to Berkshire will be £7,000 which the county council spent on publicity during the Windsor Great Park festival.

Labour Party clash over

The Labour Party yesterday settled its internal dispute over conference allowances for staff. It had threatened to disrupt next week's annual conference at Blackpool. Mr Ronald Hayward, general secretary of the party, who returned from a visit to Yugoslavia yesterday, accepted the staff's right to reject a plan to cut their allowances as an economy measure. A staff member said he had agreed to pay

Seven hurt in crash

Seven elderly people on an outing from Bournemouth to Stonehenge were hurt yesterday when their coach was in collision with a lorry on the outskirts of Salisbury, Wiltshire. Two were detained in hospital.

MP to retire

Mr Harold Boardman, aged 68, Labour MP for Leigh, Greater Manchester, since 1945, has announced his intention of retiring at the next general election. His majority at the last election was 14,635.

Scots paper presses government for aid

From a Staff Reporter, Glasgow

The Scottish Daily News is pressing the Government for help in raising at least £250,000. Mr Robert Maxwell, the newspaper's chief executive, said yesterday that a satisfactory answer was expected soon, but the Scottish Office said that no formal application for aid had been made.

The original conditions of the government loan to the newspaper stated clearly that not more than £1.25m could be expected from the state. The workers' cooperative, which launched the newspaper, is asking the Government to relinquish part of its security on the former Beaverbrook plant and premises in Albion Street, Glasgow, to provide extra security as collateral for a loan negotiated through normal commercial sources. That would affect the Government's position as a secured creditor but would not break the terms of the original agreement with the cooperative.

The move is understood to be one of several fund-raising proposals under consideration as a means of saving the 500 jobs on the Scottish Daily News, which were salvaged from the Beaverbrook closure in Glasgow last year.

Mr Maxwell made clear that there was no immediate crisis. Commenting on the move by Beaverbrook Newspapers, which is the biggest shareholder in the Scottish Daily News, to freeze about £50,000 in value-added tax refunds made to the newspaper, he said he had "frustrated this attempt to interrupt the paper's business". The bank account was continuing normally and the cooperative had instructed counsel to move in the courts to lift the action by Beaverbrook, he added.

Asked why the additional £225,000 was required, Mr Maxwell said that the newspaper's difficulty was to predict accurately what the advertising income was likely to be during the next six months. The money was needed to tide it over that period of revenue uncertainty and steps also had to be taken to secure an additional capital reserve.

The circulation had increased during the past month from 80,000 to 130,000, but advertising revenue, essential to the viability of the newspaper, is understood to amount to no more than 18 per cent of total revenue. That means a continuing loss of about £20,000 a week.

A report by Mr William Wolfe, a chartered accountant and chairman of the Scottish National Party, showed that substantial new funds would be needed to keep the newspaper alive. It was disclosed to members of the Government and that led to the resignation of Mr Wolfe as company secretary and Mr Allister Mackie as chairman of the cooperative.

Skipper tends injured sailor on advice from hospital

From Martin Huckerby, Nilton, Isle of Wight. An injured crewman in a tanker sailing up the Channel is tended by his captain, with the help of a doctor broadcasting advice from a hospital ashore, connected through the agency of one of the Post Office's coastal radio stations.

That is an example of the link between ship and shore, which in much of the Channel is provided by Nilton radio station, one of the chain of 11 medium-range stations which are being modernized under a £1.2m scheme.

The new station, near the southern tip of the Isle of Wight, was formally opened yesterday by Admiral of the Fleet Lord Mountbatten of Burma. He used the station's facilities to talk to several ships in the Channel area, including the liner QE2, approaching Cherbourg, and HMS Kent, a guided missile destroyer.

The radio stations guard the coast of Britain, from Land's End to Wick, and the modern-

Government denial on 'IRA deal' document

Continued from page 1
is an offence in Northern Ireland to carry a gun unless a licence has been issued by the RUC. There has never been any deal to release 100 or any other number of detainees. The position about incident centres was fully set out in the House of Commons on February 11, 1975. The Government has at no time contributed financially to those centres run by the Provisional IRA. The Government's policy has been fully set out in the House of Commons and this will continue to be the case. It has not been, and will not be, influenced by threats, distortions or lies.

In Dublin, the Irish Government also formally denied that a 12-point IRA peace blueprint had been found when Mr O'Sullivan was arrested.

A Staff Reporter writes from Belfast: Rough copies of the alleged document have been circulating in both Belfast and Dublin in recent days. The 12 points mentioned are:

1. The eventual withdrawal of British troops from Northern Ireland.
2. An end to arrests, screenings and searches of Catholics in Catholic areas of Northern Ireland.
3. Immunity from arrest for certain acts of people.
4. The issuing of gun licences to certain people.
5. The establishment of incident centres, release of 100 detainees within weeks.
6. An end to detention by a specific date.
7. Discussions at local level between the Army and the Provisionals.

Mr Callaghan's remarks 'theoretical'

From Peter Stafford, New York. The Wall Street Journal confirmed yesterday that Mr Callaghan, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, recently mentioned the possibility of military action against the Irish Republic by Protestants from the North. But they added that he had done so in a theoretical way, and had not spoken of any fear of an imminent invasion. Mr Callaghan was speaking in long-range terms, one participant said, and had mentioned a Protestant invasion of the North. It was a distortion of a "grisy resolution" of the Irish situation. He had pointed out that armed Protestants in the North heavily outnumbered the Republic's armed forces. Mr Callaghan was speaking at an informal meeting with a

Report to DPP on election of Blyth MP

By Stewart Tondler

The Director of Public Prosecutions is studying a report from Northumbria police on allegations concerning expenses incurred during the election of Mr John Rymen, Labour MP for Blyth.

An investigation by two senior officers was completed last week and their report was studied by Mr R. F. Price, Assistant Chief Constable of Northumbria, who forwarded it to the DPP's office during the weekend.

The investigation began when solicitors representing Metro Radio, the commercial station covering the Newcastle area, approached the police after Mr Michael Christman, a reporter, had begun work on a programme about the election in Blyth last October.

Mr Rymen, a barrister, was elected last October with a majority of 71. He defeated Mr Edward Milne, who had won the seat as an independent Labour candidate after he had been rejected by the local Labour Party.

Police see dead girls' father

Mr Alfred McNeil, whose two daughters were discovered strangled in their home at Gateshead on Friday, was told yesterday by the police at Gateshead, Co Durham, and accompanied them to Gateshead police station. The police said he was being interviewed. An inquest into the deaths of the children—Mary, whose body was found in a discarded quarry, will be opened at Gateshead on Wednesday. Police have ruled out murder in the case of Mrs McNeil and have indicated that Mr McNeil may have committed no crime.

£6 increase sought

A claim for the full £6 increase under the Government's pay guidelines submitted on behalf of 42,000 manual workers by the General and Municipal Workers' Union, will be put forward by the National Joint Industrial Council for the water industry.

Heritage centre opens

St Mary's church, Gillingham, York, bought for £5 by the city's corporation three years ago, has been transformed at a cost of £145,000 into an architectural heritage centre depicting York's 1,500 years of history. It will be opened today by Lady Dartmouth.

Not seen the London report

But, he went on, "If it suggests that he fears an invasion as any sort of imminent possibility, the Foreign Office is correct that the story is a distortion."

Mr Bartley confirmed, however, that Mr Callaghan had mentioned a move by Protestants to invade the Republic as a theoretical possibility. He had not said that it was an immediate concern.

Mr Callaghan's remarks first came to light in a television interview with Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Conservative leader, conducted by Mr William Buckley, a well-known commentator. Mr Buckley was at the meeting on September 3, and referred obliquely to it in one of his questions.

Former Irish Government minister fined

Charles Haughey, aged 50, a former Minister for Justice in the Republic of Ireland, was fined £100 in Dublin yesterday for dangerous driving and £2 for unlawful assault.

Mr Haughey, who is the Fianna Fail shadow Health Minister, denied both offences at Dublin District Court. He was said to have driven his Jaguar at Mr Noel O'Loughlin, aged 23, a suitor, near the Dublin Parliament last October.

Mr Haughey said he had at no time driven at Mr O'Loughlin. "I thought no more of it. It was a minor incident, something that happens in Dublin every day."

Publishers found not guilty

For the second time a jury failed at the Central Criminal Court last night to agree whether managers said to depict sadism and sexual torture were obscene.

Judge Neil McKinnon, QC, ordered verdicts of not guilty against the publishers, David Gold, of Banfield Road, Beckenham, Kent; his son, Ian Gold, of Kirkdale, Sydenham, London; and David Gold and Son (Holdings) Ltd, of Southwark.

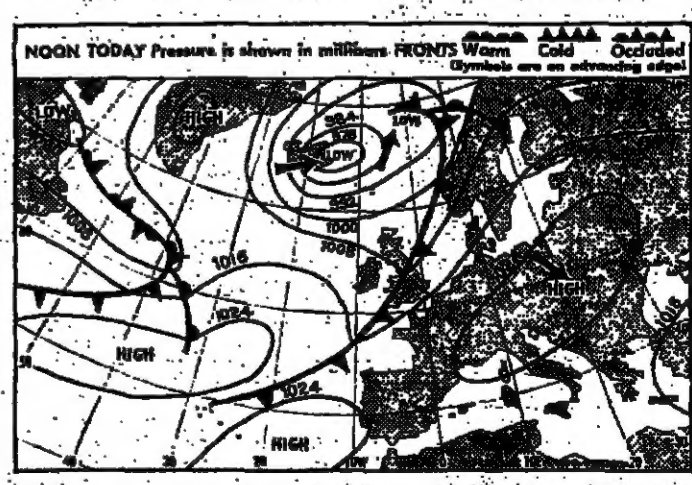
Rapist imprisoned

Galien Saleh Mubarak, aged 40, who imprisoned a Swiss girl for 17 hours in his flat, raped her and subjected her to "disgusting acts" was sentenced to seven years imprisonment at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Two die in sewer

Two Birmingham men, Thomas Connolly, aged 50, of Pershore Road, Selly Oak, and Andrew Bright, aged 30, of Somerford Road, Weoley Castle, died in a sewer in Birmingham yesterday after being overcome by fumes.

Weather forecast and recordings



Today
Sun rises: 6.47 am. Moon sets: 9.58 am. High water: London Bridge, 4.12 am, 7.1m (23.3ft); 4.20 pm, 7.2m (23.5ft). Low water: 12.7m (41.6ft) 9.49 am, 12.6m (41.3ft). Dover, 1.15 am, 6.5m (21.3ft); 1.29 pm, 6.6m (21.7ft). Hull, 8.18 am, 7.3m (24.0ft); 8.44 pm, 7.1m (23.3ft). Liverpool, 1.19 am, 8.1m (26.5ft); 1.36 pm, 8.5m (28.2ft).

Chanel Islands, S. Wales: Cloudy, mainly dry; wind SW, moderate; max temp 18°C (64°F).

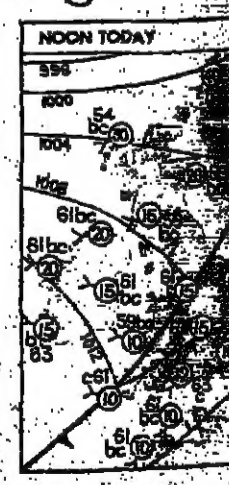
N. Wales, NW, central N. N.E. England, Lake District, Isle of Man: Cloudy, occasional rain or drizzle, becoming brighter, mainly dry; wind, SW, moderate; max temp 14°C (57°F) (55°F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow: Cloudy, occasional rain or drizzle, then bright periods; scattered showers; wind W. fresh; max temp 15°C (59°F).

Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, N. Ireland: Sunny intervals, scattered showers; wind W. strong; max temp 14°C (57°F) (55°F).

N.W. Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Sunny intervals, scattered showers; wind W. strong at Gale; max temp 14°C (57°F) (55°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Mainly dry at first, rain spreading from the W. to most districts later; temp mainly in the 10s.



Yesterday
London: Temp: max 12°C (54°F), min 6°C (43°F). Rain: 24 mm. Sun: 24 hr. 10 min. Bar: mean 1012.5 millibars, falling 1.500 millibars/24 hr.

At the resorts
24 hours in 6 pm, Sept 22

COAST	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Rain
South Coast	12	SW	Cloudy	0.2
West Coast	11	SW	Cloudy	0.1
North Coast	10	SW	Cloudy	0.1
Islands	11	SW	Cloudy	0.1
Highland	10	SW	Cloudy	0.1
Lowland	11	SW	Cloudy	0.1
Central	12	SW	Cloudy	0.1
East	13	SW	Cloudy	0.1
South	14	SW	Cloudy	0.1
North	15	SW	Cloudy	0.1
West	16	SW	Cloudy	0.1
East	17	SW	Cloudy	0.1
South	18	SW	Cloudy	0.1
North	19	SW	Cloudy	0.1
West	20	SW	Cloudy	0.1
East	21	SW	Cloudy	0.1
South	22	SW	Cloudy	0.1
North	23	SW	Cloudy	0.1
West	24	SW	Cloudy	0.1
East	25	SW	Cloudy	0.1
South	26	SW	Cloudy	0.1
North	27	SW	Cloudy	0.1
West	28	SW	Cloudy	0.1
East	29	SW	Cloudy	0.1
South	30	SW	Cloudy	0.1

The Everest Adventure

As Chris Bonington and his 102-man team attempt to conquer the daunting South West Face of Everest, here at home their progress can be followed on a special wallchart prepared by Barclays Bank International, the Expedition's sponsor.



The full colour chart, measuring 23 1/2" x 33", shows the hazards and obstacles facing the climbers and describes the preparation, organisation and special equipment needed. It also details the 'walk-in' to base camp, the route Bonington's team intend to take up the mountain and those routes on which previous expeditions were defeated.

The chart has been designed not only for the moment but also as a lasting memento of this British team's answer to the ultimate challenge of the world's highest mountain.

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HOME NEWS

Wall collapse saved lives at bombed pub, expert tells trial

The collapse of an outer wall at the bombed Horse and Groom public house, Guildford, had saved lives, a Major Donald Henderson, an explosives expert of Scotland Yard, told the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

"Had the wall not collapsed the force from the explosion in an alcove would have been channelled inside with a higher casualty rate, he said.

In the Seven Stars, the other bombed Guildford public house, the bomb had been under a bench in a corner near the entrance, Major Henderson said.

Mr Ronald Wilson, an explosives officer at Scotland Yard, said the device exploded at the King's Arms public house, Woolwich, apparently included coils and wires which produced an anti-personnel effect. The bomb had probably been thrown into the pub.

Mr Douglas Riggs, a principal scientific officer at Woolwich, said he thought the explosives at the Seven Stars public house and the Horse and Groom public house were caused by a time switch based on a Smith's pocket watch.

The Woolwich bomb, Mr Riggs said, was of about 2lb of commercial plastic explosive with the nuts and bolts around it.

A statement alleged to have been made to police by Paul

Michael Hill, aged 29, of Barnby Crescent, Beas, one of the defendants, told the court he referred to a visit by him to a Brighton flat where explosives were stacked in a corner. They looked like brown sugar and had a strong smell and made his eyes water.

Gerard Conlan, aged 20, of Cypress Street, Belfast, another of the defendants, said in an alleged statement he knew Mr Hill had been in the Provos (Provisional IRA) shooting at soldiers. He had been frightened of him.

He was taking drugs and Mr Hill, the statement said, told him if the boys back home knew of that he would get "a head job". He agreed to help Mr Hill because, he said, "I had a chance of getting killed when I went back home."

Mr Hill, Mr Conlan, Carol Richards, aged 17, of Earls Court Square, London and Patrick Armstrong, aged 24, of Algonquin Road, Maiden Vale, are charged with murdering five people at the Horse and Groom public house, bombing the Seven Stars public house, and conspiring to cause explosions.

Mr Hill and Mr Armstrong are accused of murdering two men at the King's Arms public house. Mr Armstrong is accused of conspiracy to murder there. All pleaded not guilty to all charges.

Seven people died and 84 were seriously hurt in the three explosions last autumn.

The trial continues today.

Private press back in business after 35 years Comeback for fine craftsmanship

From Trevor Fishlock
Newtown, Powys

A handsome volume of poems comes from printers where everything is touched by human hand

One of the finest private presses in Britain is back in business after 35 years. The Gregynog Press, which built a reputation for magnificent craftsmanship in printing between the wars, is now producing a special limited edition of new poems, painstakingly hand-set and printed on a Victorian hand press, on rare paper more than 40 years old. The hand-bound volumes will be finished next summer.

Gregynog is the name of a mansion in the Montgomeryshire hills which belonged to Gwen and Margaret Davies, who built a famous art collection, much of which is now in the National Museum of Wales. In 1923 the press was founded in converted stables at Gregynog to produce limited editions of books in Welsh and in English. The aim was aesthetic and cost was only a fringe consideration.

In 17 years 42 works were printed, seven of them in Welsh. On average 250 copies of each were published, and they included works of Shaw and Milton.

A few volumes of each edition were bound in morocco leather and one edition had floriated hand-coloured initial letters. Even in those days the special volumes cost up to £21 each.

Gregynog is now a conference

and study centre of the University of Wales, and the revival of the press is the result of the creation of a Gregynog printing fellowship. With a fellow installed, the iron Albion hand press still in the workshop and stacks of pre-war paper on the shelves, the next requirement was a suitable book.

The Rev R. S. Thomas, Vicar of Aberdaron, the best known of the Welsh poets writing in English, was completing a collection of 60 poems called *Laboratories of the Spirit*. This is being published by Macmillan on October 23, and the University of Wales Press has arranged to publish 215 copies under the Gregynog imprint.

Fifteen copies, selling at £230 each, are being printed on linen paper, hand-made at Joseph Batchelor's mill at Little Chart, Kent, in 1930. It is the last of the paper carrying the original Gregynog watermark, and there is just enough for these copies. They will be bound in slate-blue leather, made from French goat's skin, by Mrs Sally Lou Smith, an American working in London, and will be tooled in gold and platinum with overlays of

coloured leathers. All have been sold.

Two hundred copies at £52 each, are being printed on Barcham Green paper, made at St. Toiv, Midsstone, Kent, in 1935, and will have morocco spines and cloth sides. About 50 of them have been sold.

Mr Michael Hutchins, aged 37, the printing fellow, a lecturer at Camberwell School of Art, designed the book and is hand-setting it in 16-point Janson type. This is made in Germany, and is the oldest commercially available typeface still cast from the original matrices, which date from 1680.

Mr Hutchins designed the large initial capitals that start each poem, which are printed in blue and brown inks. The paper has to be kept damp and each sheet goes into the press four times.

Printing started a few weeks ago and will be completed next summer. "Printing like this presents many difficulties and it may take up to four hours to get one letter printed properly," Mr Hutchins said. "But the work is enormously satisfying."

The university hopes, through the sale of the books, to break even on the cost of the fellow-ship and the printing materials. Dr Glyn Tegai Hughes, warden of Gregynog, said: "We shall have to see what happens but I hope that the printing fellowship will continue, and that the press will flourish once again and carry on the good work."

Police chief defends prosecution system

By Our Legal Correspondent

Mr Walter Stansfield, Chief Constable of Derbyshire, has defended the existing procedure of criminal prosecution after a hint on Saturday by Mr Lyon, Minister of State at the Home Office, that the Government was considering the introduction of a national prosecution system independent of the police.

Mr Stansfield, who is acting president of the Association of Chief Police Officers, said in a statement that control of prosecutions should remain with the police. The system was working extremely well, he said. "The public does not really have a policeman to decide their lawyer." He pointed out that serious cases were already referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions for his advice and intervention. Chief constables, who were ultimately responsible for prosecutions, were accountable under law, and to the police authority.

Commenting on Mr Lyon's point that many cases at Crown Courts were withdrawn from juries by the judges, indicating that they should never have been brought, he said that many of these would have been seen by the Director of Public Prosecutions and his staff.

Mr Stansfield said: "Any other system would require the provision of a good deal of manpower and resources, and I have my doubts whether the end product would be as good."

Leading article, page 15

'Safe' insecticide to be investigated

By Hugh Clayton
Agricultural Correspondent

An insecticide that has been on the Government's "safe list" for more than four years is to be investigated by the Ministry of Agriculture. An official said yesterday that it was "associated with" the deaths of hundreds of wild geese.

The investigation was called for by the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection. The chemical is carbophenothion, which is distributed in Britain by Murphy Chemicals under the name Trichlor.

It appears in the latest list of approved products for farmers and growers, published by the ministry, as a "seed treatment" for reduction of damage to winter wheat by wheat bulb fly.

The ministry says: "Treated seed must not be used for human or animal consumption. Sacks which have contained treated seed must not be used for feedstuffs or millable grain."

In many areas, machinery was still likely to be bogged down or blocked. Blockages made workers impatient and machinery was often left running while being cleared. That was both costly and dangerous.

Boy on murder charge

A boy aged 14 was remanded in custody at Glasgow Sheriff Court yesterday charged with murdering George Cooper, aged six, who was found dead last week after falling from the fifteenth floor of a block of flats at Castlemilk, Glasgow.

Refuge for wives

A refuge centre for battered wives is to be set up in Nottingham next winter. The Midlands Women's Aid Group says that attacks by husbands in Nottingham average 1,400 a year and are more frequent than anywhere else in Britain.

Effect of Community Land Bill 'devastating'

By Our Estates Correspondent

The Community Land Bill was a disaster and would have a devastating effect on land, land development, and town planning control over land development, Sir Desmond Hogg, who is past president of the Royal Town Planning Institute and a former president of the Law Society, was addressing a public meeting in Bradford, the first of a series to be called around the country by the British Property Federation in protest against the Bill.

"Never in my life," he said, "have I seen such unanimous professional, technical and commercial opinion ranged in critical hostility to a Bill as in this case. That the effect of the Bill will be devastating is the opinion of many sober-minded people who have full knowledge of the tricky problems of land development and who are not at all averse to the public purse, the community, getting a fair share out of the profits, when they have accrued, of land development."

"The true thing is to be reasonable. Because some big boys in time past have made a pile out of land development, all developers and land owners are now to be sacrificed to an ideological principle of the most rigorous kind."

The development scene was about as dead as the dodo. Could anyone really believe that the committee-ridden hands of local government could ignite the catalytic spark that would once again see that scene alight? "Local government does not work that way and its founding fathers never expected it to do so," he said. "It is the destruction of individual initiative which is basically the worst thing about the new Bill."

What would happen, he asked, if the entrepreneur declined to play and all action in the development field was left to local authorities? The answer was: not enough to rebuild the real estate and property development market. It would be, once again, a case of too little and too late.

Scots teachers' petition on differentials

Scotland's honours graduate teachers are petitioning the Secretary of State for Scotland in an attempt to get a fairer deal in the classroom.

In Edinburgh yesterday Mr Henry Barter, secretary of the Honours Graduate Teachers' Association, said the unless honours graduates were given priority consideration for promotion and a salary structure recognizing their additional qualifications, there would be a decline in the numbers choosing teaching as a profession.

The association is also petitioning for representation on the Scottish Teachers' Salaries Committee because of its dissatisfaction over the latest salary structure.

Mr Barter said that recently the committee had agreed on a salary structure that practically wiped out all differentials in the pay scale between honours graduates and other grades of teacher. "One feels that it cannot be long before that body for the final lunacy votes for a common salary for all teachers, regardless of their qualifications," he said.

Husband saved from jail by wife he flogged

A man who whipped his wife brutally for four hours was saved from prison yesterday after she told a court she had forgiven him.

"It was the most horrifying brutality," Mr John Royer, for the prosecution, told Stafford Crown Court. After the whipping he had sexual intercourse with her—"an act of utter degradation, like animal lust", Mr Royer said.

Derrick Pegram, aged 46, of Bilston Street, Sedgley, pleaded guilty to assaulting his wife Linda, aged 32, with intent to cause bodily harm. Sentence was deferred for two years.

Mrs Pegram told Judge Sir Walter Kelly Carter: "We want to make a go of our life together. I have forgiven him as much as one can, but I will never forget it. It was the worst day of my life."

Mr Pegram started his attack, Mr Royer said, when his wife came home after seeing a man aged 40.

The judge told Mr Pegram his wife had saved him from a long sentence.

Sikhs plan a motor-cycle sortie wearing turbans

By Philip Howard

British Sikhs say they intend to defy the law by mounting a chevron on motor cycles through central London wearing turbans instead of the compulsory crash helmets. The National Turban Action Committee said yesterday: "We are planning a march in a few days' time."

Baldev Singh Chahal, one of the leaders of the campaign against the compulsory crash helmet law, is serving a 30-day prison sentence for refusing to pay a £50 fine for riding his motor cycle twice while wearing a turban. Mrs Chahal, of Downley, Buckinghamshire, said: "My husband, who is in Pentonville Prison, has written to me saying that he is quite happy to say there. His principles are involved. He has other charges of the same sort still outstanding and he says he will go to prison again rather than pay any fines."

Sikhs have won campaigns to wear turbans instead of official uniform in such arenas as

Wolverhampton transport department, the Singapore fire brigade, the British Army in two world wars, and, most recently, the London traffic wardens' department. The campaign against crash helmets has been waged for more than two years, with inflexibility on both sides. No one has yet left a helmet that will fit either under or over a turban.

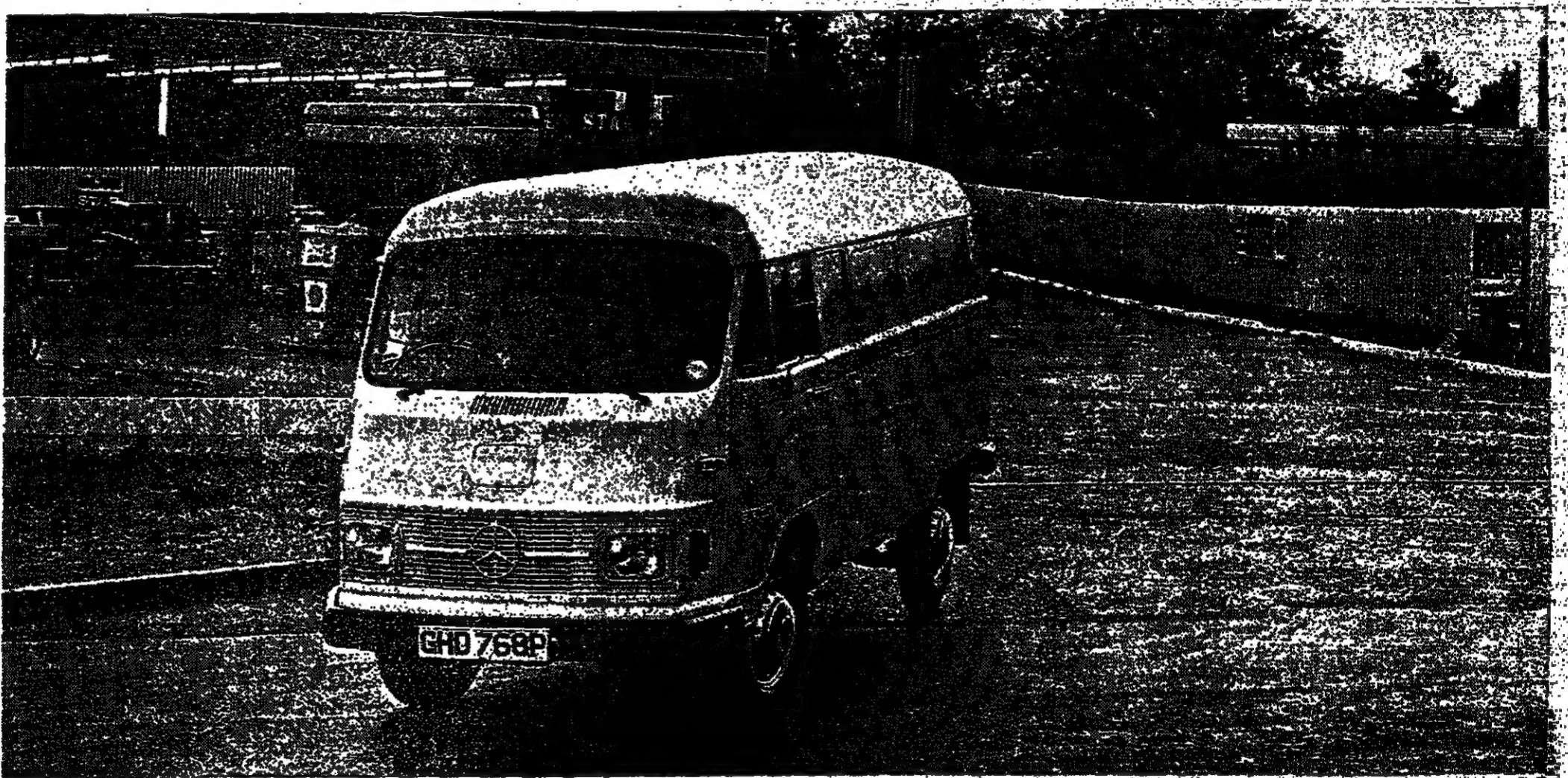
Orthodox Sikhism recognizes no obligation always to wear the turban. Govind Singh, the eighteenth-century founding father of Sikh orthodoxy, laid down five obligatory tenets for Sikhs, the five *k's*. They are: the *kes*, uncut hair; the *kachh*, underpants reaching only to the knee; the *kara*, iron bangle; the *kirpan*, sword; and the *khanga*, or hair comb.

When Sikhs take violent exercise, for example hockey, a game in which they are notably brilliant, they regularly discard their turbans, and tie their long hair up on top of their heads with a strip of cloth.

Man killed in coach crash

John Gay, aged 48, of Toll Road, Cellardyke, Fife, was killed when a coach taking him to work at Rosyth dockyard was in collision with a lorry near Kirkcaldy yesterday.

Mr Gay was formerly a town councillor at Anstruther in Fife. Fifteen of his workmates and the coach driver were taken to hospital, and two were detained.



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Athletics

Mennea fine prospect for Olympics

Rome, Sept. 21.—The World University Games athletics committee, which finished here yesterday produced few records of note, but it did produce one after the mysteriously chaotic display of the Rome spectators.

Rome snapped into the breach last night to attempt to organize the games, whose international character of university sports (FISU) failed to find a venue for its summer games. The poor quality of the streets during the heat of a long and busy season, and the boorish display of the spectators, left many observers wishing the Games had never been held.

The only outstanding performance came from an Italian Pietro de Sena who demolished with a convincing victory the 100 and 200 meters that he will be a force to reckon with at next year's Olympics.

An interesting confrontation came in the men's hammer where the former world champion, John Goddard, of the Soviet Union, defeated the world's current best hammer thrower, Walter Schmidt, of West Germany.

But the men's hammer case are preferred to look forward to the 1977 Games, in Sofia at which the USSR, recently admitted to the Olympic family, will be competing

Boxing

Alli off to war of words totting a toy pistol

Manila, Sept. 22.—Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier, wrangling mutual enmity today and hardened enemies of a savage "blood sport" they claim next week. The deepening animosity between the 33-year-old world heavyweight champion and the 31-year-old challenger was further fanned by a public tirade bout on October 1 almost overshadowed Ali's announcement that he intends to retire after one further fight.

Ali said in his dressing room after a morning workout that he would meet the winner of a bout between the former champion, George Foreman, and the American contender, Ken Norton. Dismissing the possibility of being beaten by Frazier, Ali said he would not meet Foreman or Norton until they had boxed each other. "If Norton's so good, let him box Frazier," Ali stated. "If he doesn't beat Frazier, he doesn't deserve to fight me."

Getting back to Frazier, Ali began the battle of words and threats by saying his ring work over before a crowd of about seven rounds of sparring. The champion caricatured the absent Frazier as a coward and snoring across the ring in a parody of the challenger's style.

Ali never stopped talking. He weaved, ducked, lay on the ropes

and urged his sparring partners to hit him. "Come on, Joe come on, Joe Frazier, come on, Joe Frazier," he jeered continuously. "Joe Frazier got nuttin' nuthin' at all. He never beats me. I'm the greatest fighter of all time."

In his dressing room later Ali focused on his opponent and next week's bout. "It's a holy war," he declared. "This isn't no sporting event." He said he knew Frazier hated him. Frazier was "just playing a part" in the ring but he could, he said pitifully. "I know Frazier is the real man, plus," but "God will bless him in the end, he means no harm. He just can't be as wise as me."

A few hours later Frazier revealed the bitterness of his feelings for Ali at a press conference in a hotel, guarding his audience by keeping out the cameras while pulling a gun on him. He said he was on his ninth-floor balcony on Tuesday evening when Ali arrived in the room below him shouting that he wanted to shoot a gorilla.

Ali pointed a toy pistol at Frazier and pulled the trigger four or five times. It was the champion's idea of a joke to unseat him—and upset the Jewish world champion. Frazier, inherently determined not to be thrown off

stride by Ali's as amused.

Believing that Frazier would play with guns, Ali said you can really "f---" when you start shooting.

Asked as to his attitude toward Frazier, he said there was a lot but he wasn't the king of boxing—having a guy of my size, who's got more power than me, means I can't forgive him."

Frazier made plain Ali's down to size in he indicated he was cautious against Ali whom he reluctantly still "real sharp" and "good punch." He said he didn't want to take any chances. "I've sacrificed hard to get to this point and knock an older, I can understand it doesn't bother me."

What Ali thought of Frazier's "holiness" was a "holiness" was afraid Frazier was better watching him. He said he'd himself want he'd see the way he was playing. "You're a show," he said.

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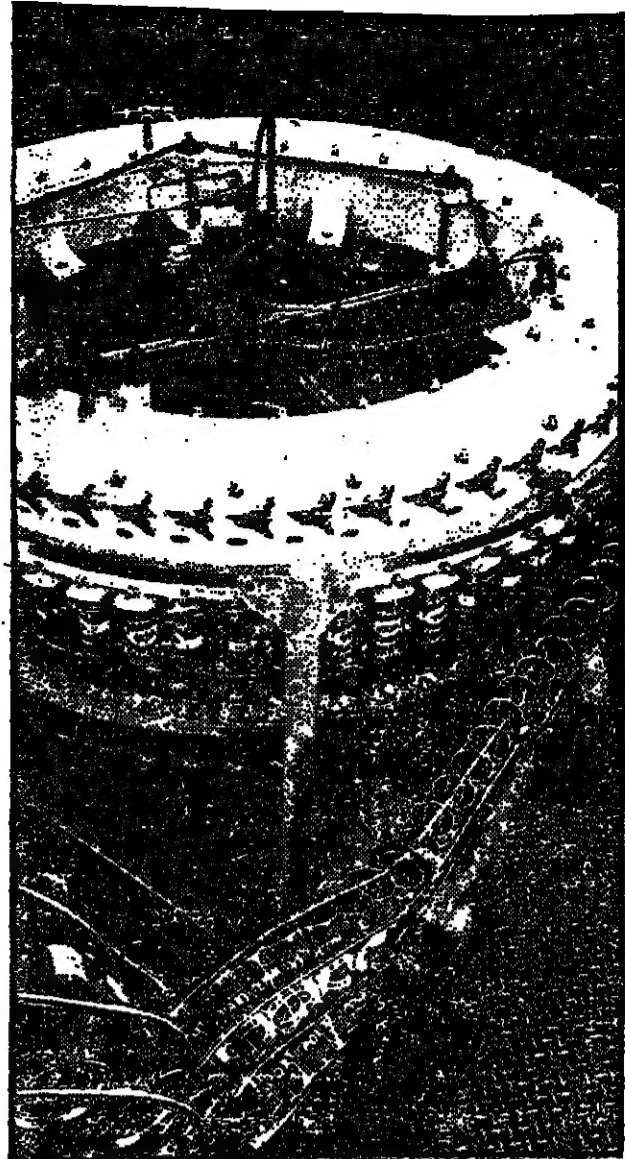
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ACROSS THE BARNETT

TIN

a Special Report briefing



The introduction of canned drinks offered a big market for tinplate. Above, beer cans being filled.

Versatility has safeguarded role

Although tin is the most valuable commodity among the non-precious metals, selling at a price more than five times that of copper, 17 times the price of lead and nearly 10 times the price of zinc, the industry has not come into the hands of a small number of very big owners.

Despite the fact that for 20 years the industry has enjoyed the only really viable international agreement to avoid imbalance between production and consumption and guard against violent price fluctuations, the international groups have not shown the enthusiasm they display for other metals.

Yet while other materials serve only one need at a time, tin is a maid of all work, capable of fulfilling several needs at the same time and playing a vital role in the manufacture of merchandise.

Among its many virtues are the fact that it resists corrosion by chemical attack: it is malleable and can be joined by soft solder: it is non-toxic and alloys readily with the majority of other metals.

It is this all-round capability, plus the fact that there has been constant laboratory research which has led to new applications, that has enabled tin to keep its place among metals throughout many decades of industrial development and made it still preeminent in today's highly technological structure.

One constant factor over the past century in world tin mining has been that production has centred on a small number of countries, although some have climbed and others slipped back in the league table. Up to the second half of the nineteenth century, the United Kingdom was the largest single producer, with Australia, Indonesia (then the Netherlands East Indies) and Malaya close behind.

These four countries produced about 90 per cent of the world tin output. But from the last decade of the nineteenth century, Malaya, Indonesia and Thailand were dominant and South-east Asia was mining more than 75 per cent of the world's tin, although by 1972 the figure had dropped back to 64 per cent. Today, by including Nigeria, Congo, Zaïre and Bolivia, one reaches a total of nearly 85 per cent of world supply.

The position now is that almost all the tin mined comes from developing countries, while the consumers are almost all developed, industrial countries, with 80 per cent of output going to the United States, Canada, Japan and Western Europe.

The tin mining industry has been outstandingly successful, both for producer and consumer, in operating machinery to cope with price and production-consumption difficulties by the limitation of exports and the maintenance of a buffer stock.

International control of the industry goes back to the International Tin Committee which operated between 1931 and 1942. From 1956, control has been with the International Tin Council which has operated four five-year international tin agreements and has prepared a fifth to operate from July 1 next year. This has been deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and is open for signature until April 30 next year.

Under the tin agreements, a floor price, which is inviolable, is established and a ceiling price, which is not sacrosanct.

Within this framework, and that of the Tin Council's instructions, the Buffer Stock Manager operates within the markets, endeavouring to balance the trend of price developments. He may

buy and sell, provided he is a net buyer of tin, and may borrow and lend if such action is appropriate to the market conditions.

Mr H. W. Allen, executive chairman of the International Tin Council, has written on how the tin agreement works: "The council's tin is to inject an additional element into the market that will help to prevent severe disruption, preventing excessively steep falls in the lower sector of the price range or excessively steep rises in the upper sector, with free movement in between in accordance with day-to-day conditions of supply and demand."

But the council also has longer-term functions that must be at the root of its policies. It is required to provide for adjustment between production and consumption, to help to increase the export earnings of tin from the developing producing countries, to help to secure adequate supplies to consumers and to achieve a dynamic and rising rate of production.

A new departure in the fifth agreement is that while producers were, as before, still committed to financing a buffer stock of 20,000 tonnes of tin, it is proposed to double the stock by voluntary contributions in cash or tin from the consuming countries, although the producers had pressed for these contributions to be compulsory.

However, there is a provision in the agreement for the Tin Council to hold a mid-term review which could lead to renegotiation of the agreement if consumer countries are not moving satisfactorily towards the target.

A big question during negotiations had been whether the United States, the world's leading tin consumer, would sign the fifth agreement, having stood aside during the previous four, although it took

part in negotiations and helped to frame the agreement.

However, hopes were raised by a Kansas speech by Dr Kissinger, the Secretary of State, in May in which he spoke of a major initiative to re-order world raw material markets. There developed a feeling that the United States might decide that there was more to be gained from adhering to the fifth agreement than by continuing "isolationism", and would sign.

It had been pointed out by the International Tin Council that the agreement by the United States could play a powerful role in determining future policy. The voting allocation made to those tin-consuming nations who attended the Geneva negotiating conference, although conditional upon the final membership of the next agreement, would give the United States at least one quarter of total consumer votes, with a provisional 33 among the 1,000 votes allocated to the 28 consumer nations represented at the United Nations tin conference.

On the two-thirds simple majority required for enforcing most Tin Council decisions, the United States would thus have a strong bargaining hand in determining future Tin Council action were she to join the fifth agreement," the journal said.

By signing the agreement, the United States can also show that its public commitment to commodity agreements as expressed by Dr Kissinger can be safely entrusted in the well established and most successful agreement in existence.

China wanted in world pact

Mr Harold W. Allen has for 13 years been executive chairman of the International Tin Council and is today a key figure in the tin world. Although, as an Australian, he is of an extrovert race, Mr Allen, at 58, is a reserved, private man, dedicated to his job and highly respected by an intensely loyal staff.

Less well known is that he is a keen music lover and a composer—his latest work is shortly to be published in Australia. Cricket and coffee are other unexpected passions. During an England-Australia Test match, he will demand the score every half-hour. And as a coffee connoisseur, he boasts coffee-making machines from Hungary, France, Germany and Italy—the Hungarian being his favourite.

The father of three sons and a daughter, he enjoys living in England but misses the swimming and surfing he was used to when living in Sydney. It was there that he was brought up in the depression years—and he has not forgotten the life and hard times of those days.

At 16 he was doing a clerical job in property management by day and attending university at night, some evening sessions lasting four-and-a-half hours.

He read economics and graduated at 20—praising himself for an evening in the private sector until the war and then served in the Supply and Transport branch of the Australian Imperial Force as a lieutenant. He got married in 1942. "I was flat broke at the time," he says. "Like a lot of duration-only men, he was glad to get out of the army." "I was not the army type—and it was at this point that his career began to take off."

He went into the Australian Public Service in Canberra, as a research officer in the new Department of Post-War Reconstruction, which became the Department of National Development. For the next 17 years, he was involved in Australian resources development and began to make his name in housing and home finance and for some years took charge of these aspects of his department's work.

What set him upon the road to the tin council was a promotional transfer into minerals. Here, at a time when mineral exploration policies which led to a boom in Australian mineral production were being hammered out, he worked for the late Dr Harold Ruggatt, the famous Australian geologist.

A natural corollary of this work was an interest in world trade problems and efforts to solve them, not least the International Tin Agreement which was, even then, a pace-setter in the commodities world. Mr Allen made his mark, as became clear in 1962, when the first chairman of the council, Mr George Pieser, resigned; the Australian



Mr Allen: fervent believer in agreements.

Government nominated him for the position. As executive chairman, based in London, he has a staff of 21 and four departments report to him: buffer stock, statistical, secretarial and accounts. Each time the international agreement expires and a new one is negotiated, three appointments are made—executive chairman, buffer stock manager and secretary.

'Rough' talks with US

I asked Mr Allen whether, during his 13 years, there had been any tough moments. He thought that, although the tin council has good relationships with the United States, the negotiations in the 1960s with the Americans on their tin disposal programme had been rough.

The First Agreement had run into trouble when the Americans refused to buy tin and, in the late 1950s, a large world tin surplus built up.

Then, in the early 1960s, the United States wanted to sell tin. It was at this time that he was appointed to the chairman-ship. Looking back, the early talks on tin stockpile disposals had not been exactly smooth. Looking ahead, Mr Allen predicts rather slow but steady growth in tin consumption but is convinced that tin will keep and indeed increase its place in industry because it is, above all, competitive in both the technical and the economic sense. He sees production remaining largely in the hands of the traditional producers. Although in Brazil, for instance, tin output is growing, Mr Allen feels that internal needs will take up all it can produce.

Apart from welcoming the

Looking ahead to the sea

by K. Das

Once universally known as a tin-and-rubber country, Malaysia has in recent years diversified successfully into timber, pepper and oil (both palm oil and natural crude).

Rapid industrialization has also helped to change the economy so much that experts predict that by 1985 a per capita income of \$M1,580 (about £300) will categorise Malaysia as a "developed" country.

Tin, however, still remains a crucial export, accounting for about \$M800m annually, or about a fifth of the overseas trade. The industry, always subject to world price fluctuations, is facing difficulties of a new kind: the depletion of easily accessible deposits.

Planned industrial and agricultural diversification was instituted not long after independence in 1957 because the Government was aware of the "waiting age" nature of mining. Today's rate of production of about 70,000 tons annually is expected to continue to the end of the decade. To mine in the 1980s not only new sites have to be explored but new methods developed.

According to government statistics, only about 160,000 hectares of tin-bearing land have been leased for mining. Geological surveys show that about 500,000 hectares have potential, are not easily accessible, rich alluvial areas were exploited. Much of the exploitable reserves today do not stand on virgin land. Not surprisingly, the industry is looking to the sea, and offshore prospecting has begun off the coasts of Penang, Selangor and Perak states.

Difficulties of prosperity

No great store is laid on immediate benefits from offshore mining. The known methods, including gravel pump mining, dredging and open-cut systems, still have great attraction. The costs are about the same. Extracting a picol (133.3lb) by gravel-pump costs an average of \$895 compared to \$590 in 1973, a rise of about 50 per cent.

The cost is expected to continue rising sharply because of inflation and rapidly increasing living standards. Miners, understandably, are not keen on investing in new and untried machinery on offshore extraction while the market both for metal and labour is in such an unbalanced state. Long dependent on cheap labour, prosperity has brought difficulties to the industry.

One approach is to exploit existing sites more intensively. Dredges, for example, have a maximum depth of only 200ft and deeper-seated deposits are therefore untouched. Long regarded as uneconomic, the present thinking is to dig deeper. It appears that the job cannot be done by simple modification of existing machinery. New techniques have to be evolved.

Another prospect is to exploit what are known as tin tailings. The tailings consist of tin-bearing earth after the normal exploitation is done. It is suggested that commercial quantities may be extracted from the endless hills of grey earth up and down the country if

economic techniques are evolved.

The most serious difficulty, one that has always faced the industry, is control of the market. In the 1960s, when the United States was releasing tin stockpiles, it was in fact controlling the market very much like a producer. The Malaysian Government was even then changing its economic policy to eliminate that kind of "interference".

The London tin market has always been a sore point, and the thinking for a long time has been to find ways and means to bring the market to Kuala Lumpur. The frustration of the Government can be well understood by last year's expansion and contraction of the industry.

In early 1974, with prices rising, more than 100 gravel-pump mines opened, to reach a total of 362 in operation. When prices fell, closures occurred daily, and the country's total production fell below pre-boom figures.

Long before the present mines become depleted, new ones should be in operation and offshore workings should be in production. Offshore oil exploitation should also be well ahead of the 100,000 barrels of crude a day expected this year.

Malaysia should do just as well, or better, if it changed its image from tin-and-rubber to oil-and-rubber country. But tin is paying, and should continue to pay, for the country's real target: to become an industrialized nation independent of tin market manipulation.

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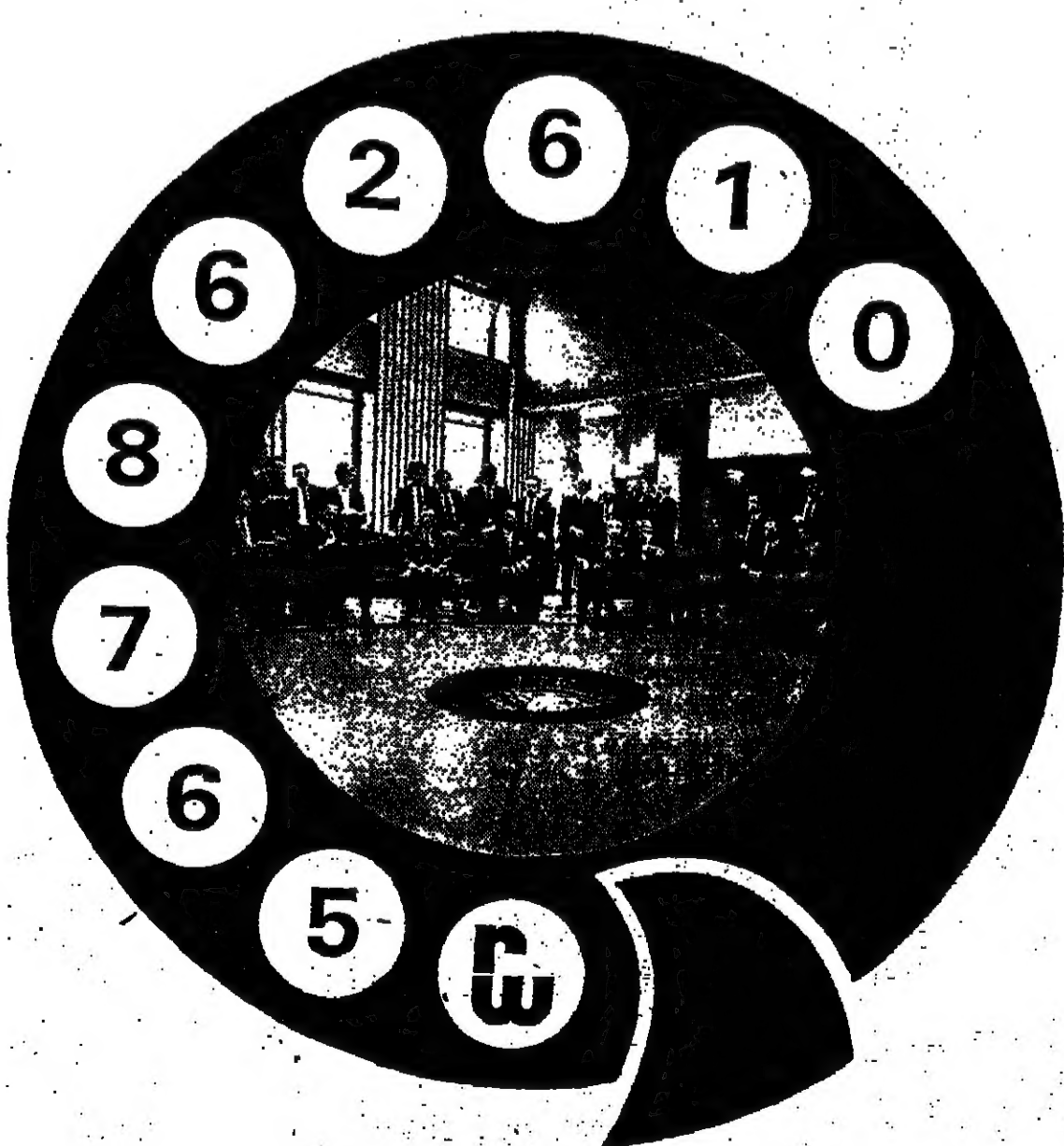
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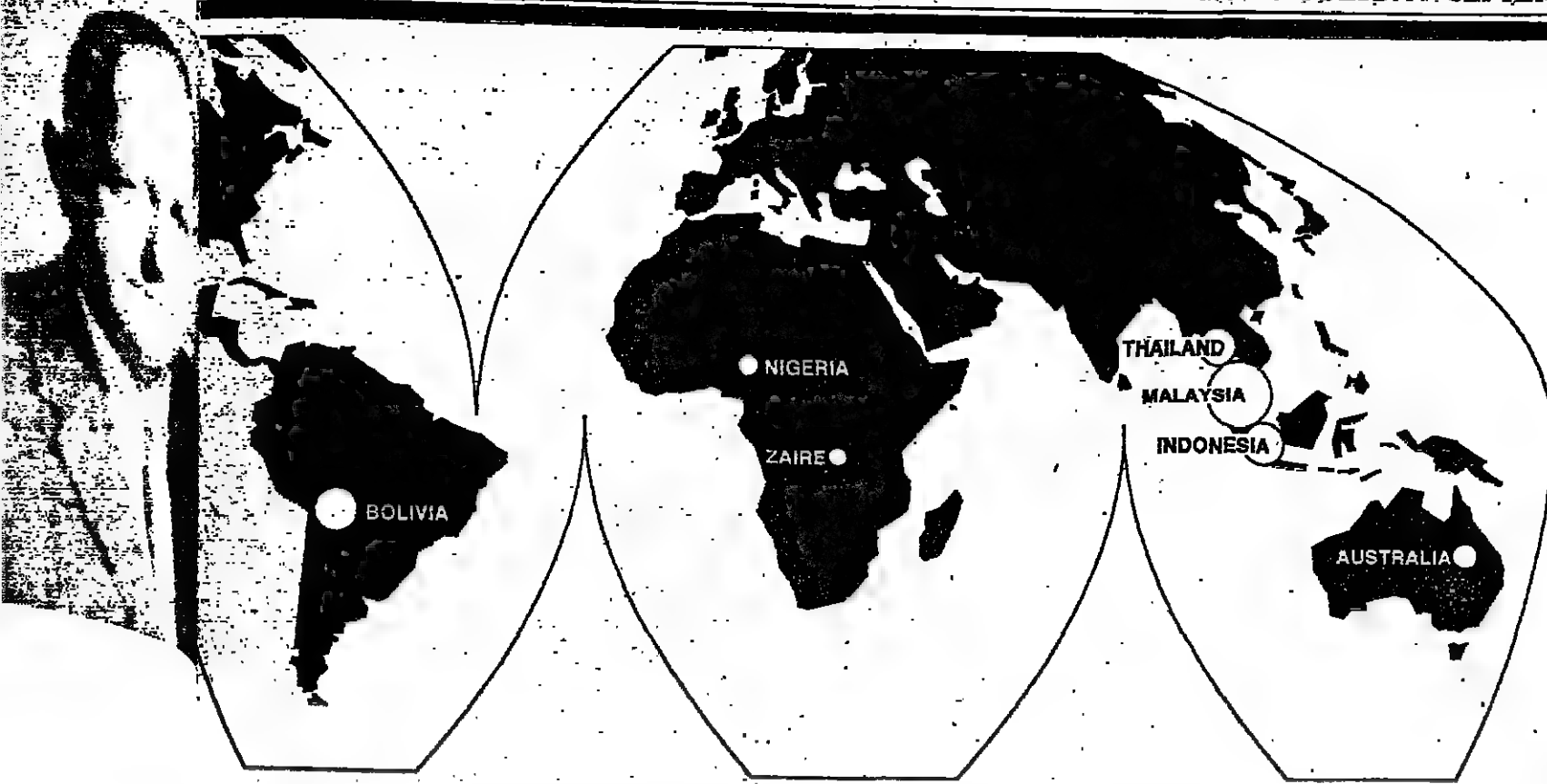
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World pact

Advocating International Monetary Fund and World Bank for reconstruction and development help for the council's stock.

Allen feels that the Government's show interest, as evidenced by Wilson's call at the Commonwealth Conference in May for a 're-orientation' of the Council's policies, is encouraging. Since the upsurge in tin prices in 1973-74 these have been a danger to the Council's stock.

Both producers and consumers as members of the pact means that it is difficult to reach agreement on important issues. However, he is confident that this approach is right one, allowing as it does both sides to exchange views.

the worldwide context. Allen has another intention. He thinks that for London to establish a world tin market centre with tin concentrates in building. He points out that already international tin concentrates for tin, wheat, rice, coffee and cocoa and other commodity groups, scattered about London, main markets and skills here.

drawing together under one roof—perhaps with computer and library facilities and administrative services—would be of fit both to the organization and to its own interest.

Cornish mines date back to 500 BC

More than 5,000 years ago copper took the place of stone in the making of weapons and tools, but the metal was fairly soft and it was not possible to get a cutting edge.

Then someone discovered that by alloying it with tin, copper could be made harder and stronger and, if the alloy consisted of 10 per cent of tin, what we now know as bronze could be sharpened to a cutting edge. Furthermore, it was found that a copper-tin mixture, when molten, filled a mould more completely and even from primitive furnaces a better casting resulted.

From then on, those who did not have tin were on the hunt for it and this need sparked off early trade and exploration because the places where tin was found were not the centres of its consumption.

Bronze implements dating from about 3500 BC have been found in Iraq and the

Minor constituent whose inclusion is vital

Tin is rarely used alone; almost always it is combined with other metals, as in the case of bronze, an alloy of a chemical compound, or it is used as a coating. Although it is, proportionally, usually a minor constituent, its inclusion is vital to the reliability of the product.

The principal uses of the metal are:

Tinplate.—About 70,000 tons of tin a year go into tinplate and of this total some 30 per cent is used by the packaging industry and the rest in light engineering, in packaging, tinplate is used for food cans of all types, including beer cans and for other containers such as paint cans, cosmetic and medical preparation holders and an important, relatively new outlet, aerosols.

In addition, tinplate finds its way into caps, closures, crown corks, kitchen utensils, gas meters, signs, toys, electrical equipment and engineering parts.

Solders.—Basically solders are alloys of tin and lead and most contain 30 to 70 per cent of tin. Some obvious applications are electrical connections in radio and television, general wiring and distributing equipment and telephone exchanges. Solders are also used in car radiators and heat exchangers and in sheet metal joining and filling and the seaming and sealing of containers.

The practice of hand soldering individual joints has to some extent been overtaken by automatic operation, particularly in electronics, where large numbers of connections are soldered simultaneously.

Coatings.—Pure tin is used as a coating in food processing equipment, milk cans, water heaters, kitchen utensils, pins, copper wire conductors, steel wire, electrical and electronic parts and car pistons.

Tin-nickel coatings are used in watch parts, oil lamps, infrared reflectors, musical and drawing instruments, electrical connections, scientific instruments, printed circuits and refrigerator equipment.

Tin-copper coatings give the bronze finish on metal furniture and utensils, and on ornaments such as vases.

Tin-zinc coatings are used for car and cycle accessories, hydraulic brake parts and electrical parts while tin-lead is used for petrol tanks, engine bearing overlays, electrical equipment and fire extinguisher bodies.

Alloys.—Probably, apart from bronze, the alloy best known to the ordinary man is pewter, which generally contains more than 80 per cent of tin. Allied with aluminium, tin is used for engine bearings and pump parts. Tin-based alloys also go into costume jewellery and organ pipes.

In worked and other forms, tin is used in electrical condensers, wrappings, bottle capsules, food processing and machinery. Tin extrusions go into pipes for chemical and food plant and various forms of collapsible tubes. In powder form it is used for tin-coated paper, tinning pastes, bearings, filaments and spraying. In fibrous form it is used in float glass.

Chemical compounds.—The list of chemical compounds containing tin is impressive and includes chlorides (weighing natural silk, electroplating baths, soap perfume stabilizers, silvered glass mirrors, chemical reducing agent, electrically conducting glass surfaces); dibutyltin (stabilizers for PVC plastics, veterinary uses and catalysts); dioctyltin (stabilizers for plastic bottles, water pipes and wrappings); stannous (toothpaste); monobutyltin (stabilizer for plastic film); octoate (catalyst for polyurethane manufacture); stannous oxide (vitreous enamel opacifiers, ceramic glazes, polishing powder); sulphate (electroplating baths); tributyltin (industrial fungicides, insecticides, anti-fouling paints, disinfectants) and triphenyltin (agricultural fungicides).

Bronze.—The start of it all must not, of course, be forgotten. Here applications include architectural ornaments, bells, chemical plant, coins and medals, gears, hydraulic engineering, marine and railway engineering, pipe unions, pumps, statuary and valves.

Buffer stock to be doubled

Fundamental changes and several refinements have been made in the Fifth International Tin Agreement, which is now ready for signature. The greatest change is the objective of doubling the existing 20,000-tonne buffer stock, at present financed by the producer countries, by calling for contributions, in cash or tin, from consuming nations up to a target of 20,000 tonnes.

In previous agreements there has been provision for voluntary contributions by consumers, without a target figure, but only The Netherlands and France have acted on it.

Although under the fifth agreement the consumer contribution provision remains voluntary, against the wishes of the producers, there is a "safety net" in that half-way through the life of the agreement the Tin Council will review progress towards the consumers' target. If it has not been satisfactory, the council could call upon the Secretary General of the United Nations to convene a conference to negotiate an amendment of the agreement.

Britain considers contributing

The Netherlands and France have said they will continue voluntary contributions and Britain is to give "sympathetic consideration" to the matter.

Canada has agreed to consider contributing, without committing itself, and Switzerland has said that if it joins the pact it will not exclude the possibility of contributing. Japan and Italy have not indicated their positions.

Indonesia—the linking of prices to the rate of inflation in industrialized countries and to the prices of manufactured goods—is not provided for, but under the agreement the council may review the price range on the basis of continuing studies of production costs, price trends and other factors.

Another refinement is the broadening of an existing provision enabling the council to sponsor arrangements between participating countries to ensure that, in a shortage, participating consumer countries are given preference on available supplies.

A new clause to Article 40 empowers the council to recommend appropriate measures to producing countries to ensure that, in a shortage, participating consumer countries are given preference on available supplies.

During a serious shortage the council can terminate export controls and recommend maximum levels of stocks.

Avoiding violent price changes

As before, the buffer stock, with its reserves of cash and metal, and export controls are the main methods of avoiding violent price fluctuations and of keeping supply and demand in balance. The upper and lower price limits in force when the fourth agreement expires will carry over to the new agreement and there is no change in the system whereby the buffer stock manager can operate in the upper and lower sectors of the price range, but in the middle range only when authorized by the council.

A difficulty with the buffer stock under the present agreement has been that because cash contributions to it were made at the minimum price in force at the time the agreement came into effect, the stock was in danger of erosion when prices rose during the life of the agreement. Therefore under the new agreement, cash contributions will be made at the minimum price in force at the time of the transaction.

The council's authority to borrow for buffer stock purposes on the security of tin warrants held by the buffer stock continues and, furthermore, in the event of finance being obtained from any international source, such as the International Monetary Fund, the council can modify producers' and consumers' buffer stock contributions.

It is interesting that although China, a net importer of tin, did not attend the Geneva conference at which the agreement was reached, the 71-page text and five annexes have this time been published in Chinese as well as the more usual English, French, Russian and Spanish.

TIN

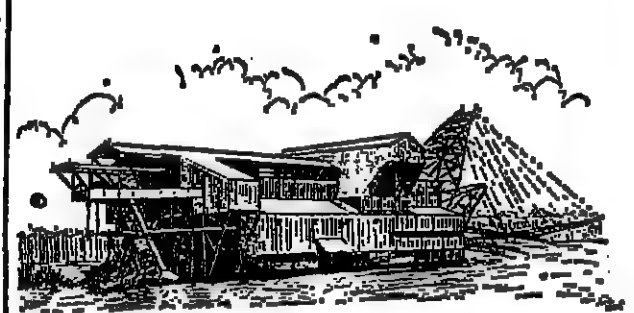
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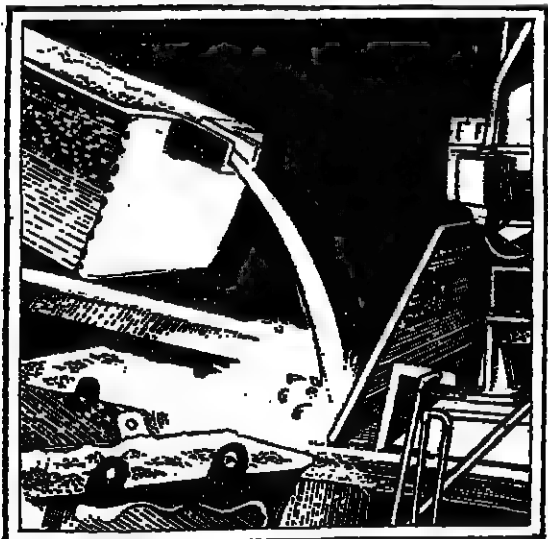
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THE ARTS

Professor of the past

"Kleist's short story, *Die Marquise von O...* (you've read it, I suppose) is dry, precise and concise. Kleist never wastes words," says Eric Rohmer with a febrile enthusiasm. He could be describing himself. The 55-year-old director of the *Contes Miroirs* and numerous educational television series does not pause for breath. *Die Marquise von O...* is merely the first stage in his quest for the past. It will form part of a series of six or more films entitled *Les Contes Historiques*.

Rohmer, having set up the tape recorder himself, continued to conduct the interview. He neither solicits nor suffers any prompting and heads straight to the point: "It's the past in itself which interests me. I make no attempt to modernize. I want to make people appreciate the past and the art of the past. We have inherited a great tradition and must not lose it through laziness. Nowadays, it is true, one must make a greater effort because the educational system is less orientated towards the past. But I am aware that our modern epoch has no exact mirror in the past."

I managed to ask Rohmer how he intended to capture the exact nature of an epoch he had never experienced. "I have changed almost nothing of the text. That's why I'm filming it in Germany and using German actors. And the exact dialogue of the text will be spoken in the film. *Die Marquise von O...* attracted me because it was neither a novel, short story nor play. The book is written as a script. That is to say, there is very little description, except for the visual account of the characters' gestures and positions."

Rohmer continued to talk of his fidelity to the past, stressing

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Why it is dangerous to think of North Sea oil as Britain's private bonanza

Whatever politicians may have said or their audiences assumed, North Sea oil is not Scottish, or even British. Like the rest of the seabed, it is divided—parcelled out between the countries that touch the North Sea and have rights to assert under the 1958 Continental Shelf Convention.

From the Dover Strait to the Norwegian Sea, no fewer than seven states—Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, West Germany, Denmark and Norway—have sectors to exploit. The French and Belgians have done little about it, largely because geology is against them. The rest have done a great deal in 10 years. Hundreds of wells have been drilled in appalling conditions, more than 30 commercial fields identified, 3,000 million tons of oil and 80 million million cubic feet of gas discovered. However much turns out in the future, the North Sea is a bonanza. But only some of it is British.

Even if Britain has only part of the North Sea's fuel reserves, the problems of securing, finding, producing, protecting, selling and taxing that part have an far been enough to keep most of those concerned fully occupied. Unfortunately some of them have forgotten in the process that other countries in north-western Europe have their own North Sea rights and resources, and their own North Sea problems. The diplomat

and international lawyers know it. So do some of the oilmen. But not many other people, in or out of politics, seem to give it much thought.

There is a real danger in such domestic myopia. On the one hand, North Sea states may yet come into conflict with each other in any number of ways. The International Court has already had to deal with one harder dispute (over the German sector's boundaries in 1969), and the patchwork of relevant international law still has some gaping holes in it. On the other hand, there are some ostensibly domestic problems which have inevitable international ramifications—the treatment of foreign companies is an obvious example—and others which might be easier to solve with international cooperation.

The business of North Sea oil and gas is in any case an international one, whether we like it or not. It affects supply and demand in a world market. It needs technology and investment on an international scale. It makes some countries relatively richer or poorer. It may make some feel more envious or resentful. In other words, it has something to do not only with national energy but also with international power, and anyone who ignores that, treating the matter as a purely domestic one, does so at his peril.

To quote a book just published about the politics of the North Sea business: "The North Sea may be the cause

and will certainly be the catalyst of a significant change in the distribution of power within the political system, and it is the characters and self-interests of the governments and nations involved which are at stake in that process of change, as well as the fuel supplies of five countries."

The book is, in a sense, a gesture of discontent with the narrow concentration on the domestic issues of North Sea development—only in Britain but in other North Sea countries as well. The Royal Institute of International Affairs, London, and the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs, Oslo, brought together politicians, officials, oilmen, bankers, naval officers and others from the various North Sea states to talk about the ways in which North Sea

oil and gas might cause international conflict or demand international cooperation. The book records their meetings. They reached no grand conclusions and they found more problems than they solved. But they had no trouble in identifying some of the things that matter and that governments will have to settle. Some detailed legal problems still need attention. So do many legal problems of international management and control.

Who, for example, should enforce safety and pollution standards, and within what area? Should the relationship between governments and companies in different North Sea states be harmonized? Do North Sea installations need military protection on an international scale? What role should the European Community, the International Energy Agency and Nato play? None of these issues has been resolved.

And what about money? Already £5,000 has been committed to the North Sea, but anything up to £50,000 may be needed to develop its full potential. That sort of investment can only be organized internationally. Will all the countries think it worth doing, so that Europe can be as nearly self-sufficient in energy as possible in the 1980s? Or will they, like Norway, be worried that a scale of exploration and production will exhaust national assets and disrupt national societies? If some take that line while others go short of fuel, that too will be a source of international friction.

The point of raising these awkward questions is not to spread alarm about the international effects of taking oil from the North Sea. The point is that taking the oil, however carefully, sets up a tidal wave in international politics and economics, and it is wiser to work out the size and course of that wave before it hits something, rather than after. Governments have been ready enough to assert their separate rights in the North Sea. It is time they directed more of their own and their electorates' attention to the common responsibilities and opportunities which go with them.

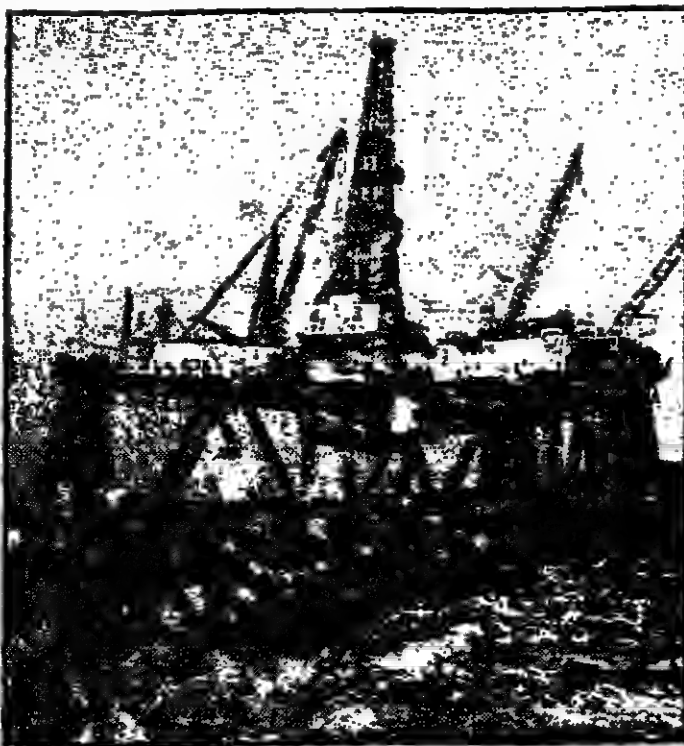
The North Sea states are bound to assume a changed role over the next decade, in relation to each other, to other countries and to the world at large. As one of the papers in the book says: "That role may be desirable. It may even be inevitable. If it is, it would still be better to assume it consciously, carefully, and by design."

The Political Implications of North Sea Oil and Gas, edited by Martin Sater and Ian Smart (University of Oslo and the Royal Institute of International Affairs, Oslo, and the Royal Institute of International Affairs, London) £6.50.

Ian Smart

The author is Deputy Director and Director of Studies at the Royal Institute of International Affairs.

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A new order at sea for the world's warships

Ever since man caught his first fish or vice-versa, the potential of the sea as a source of power and hence competition has been an irresistible force in foreign affairs. This potential has been developed by the industrial revolution and by the technological revolution—which has swelled not only the supply of those resources found under the sea, but the demand for those which are carried round the world on top of it.

It is now almost certain to be so modified by the establishment of 200-mile exclusive economic zones which will put more than a third of the oceans under national control and by the extension of territorial limits to 12 miles which will affect about 110 straits until now accepted as international waters.

This is taking place against a background of naval competition which, while not of the same order as that which preceded the 1914-18 War, is arguably the most significant since then. The reaction has been predictable. The Western Alliance, divided by the Atlantic, dependent upon sub-sea raw materials, among which oil is only the most obvious, has been alarmed by the apparent erosion of its former dominance of the sea lanes.

Individual navies, worried by domestic economic pressures on procurement programmes, have founded a long waiting area at the emergence of a modern, ocean-going Soviet fleet. Awareness of the situation is necessary. The alarmism, fed by isolated, often misused statistics, is counter-productive. Western strategists have to come time being pleading for a more sober, realistic presentation of the facts, unvarnished by political overtones.

The International Institute for Strategic Studies recently demonstrated in The Military Balance that the Soviet fleet together can muster 65 ballistic missile submarines, 20 of which are only diesel powered, against Nato's 48—all of which are nuclear powered, and Nato ballistic missile boats are armed with multi-warhead missiles while Russian missiles have so far only one warhead apiece.

The Pact has 263 cruise missiles and attack submarines, against Nato's 212. This represents a steady fall in the total of Russian boats which stood at nearly 500 in the late fifties, and the total is expected to fall still further because of the approaching obsolescence of some of her diesel powered boats.

It has even been argued that the Russians may be short of nuclear-powered attack boats for the next few years, given that they have the job of patrolling down Nato's own ballistic missile boats. It is not clear if Russian submarines, it is predicted, will be able to maintain their numbers in the next five years and in 10 years time as many as 200 nuclear-powered submarines will probably be quietly extending Soviet seapower under the waves, including 60 or so with ballistic missiles. Such a reflection of an underwater phalanx in Soviet shipbuilding which in turn indicates a different order of priorities from those in Western capitals.

As for surface ships, the Pact has 458 against Nato's 576. Moreover the Soviet emphasis on smaller craft means that in

Western navies think in terms of sea control, the Soviet navy in terms of sea denial. Both however will soon have to face up to a new order at sea, governed by the addition of the two navies now based in the Black Sea, no doubt the behind the Soviet Union's attempt to build a maritime infrastructure round the world. The developing base facilities in Somalia, whose proximity to the Red Sea has been the West's latest outstanding example.

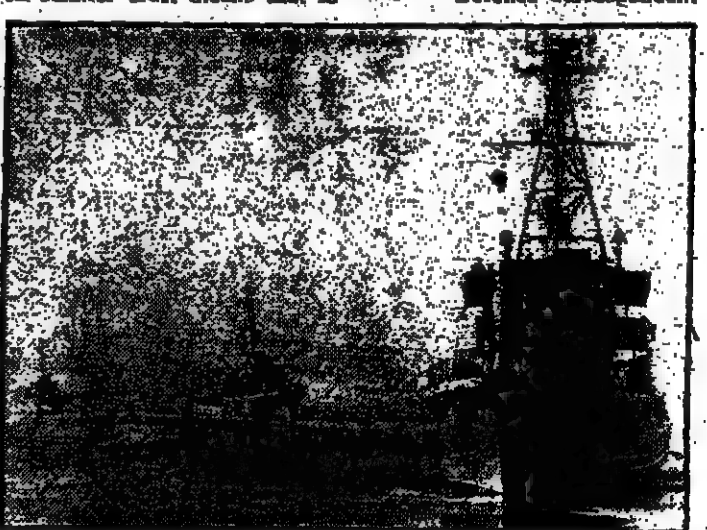
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The questions which must loom upon Soviet strategy more than that of the West, may soon move from theory to practice. But they carry a latent threat to the old order under which the world's dominant navies have grown up.

The development of shipping lanes, based on the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf, could have an impact upon the shape of things to come. A small littoral state, armed with patrol craft and accurate missiles could protect that state's new found rights more effectively than in the past—what all they might have hoped for were built a dozen or so aging destroyers.

The navies of East and West, each bent on its particular purpose, might have to re-examine their options during the next 10 years or so.

Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent



Russian ships at sea: how real is the threat?

The politics of envy in Sri Lanka

The Tamils of Ceylon first felt the ill-winds of Buddhist revivalism and Sinhalese nationalism in the early part of this century. After 1948, when independence came, the troubles increased and they suffered murderous rioting in 1956 and 1958. The latest study of their plight by Walter Schwarz (*The Tamils of Sri Lanka*, Minority Rights Group, 35 Chancery Street, London, WC2, 45p) finds that deterioration has accelerated sharply since the republican constitution of 1972 renamed Ceylon as Sri Lanka and reconfirmed Sinhalese as the sole official language. The limited provision it made for the use of Tamil was not acceptable to the Tamil community.

There are few countries in Asia where the withdrawal of colonial power has not brought maltreatment or injustice to some minority that enjoyed protection before. Usually these communities were useful to foreign rulers because they were better educated and more able; hence envy as much as resentment nationalised or the hoisting of a new identity promotes the discrimination against them.

The Chinese in several South-east Asian countries, the Vietnamese in Cambodia, the Indians in Burma have all suffered, these last simply having been expelled. The Tamils of Sri Lanka, however, must be distinguished. The Indian Tamils are those imported in the nineteenth century to work on tea estates and though they have suffered political discrimination their most urgent need is for employment as a living wage rather than for cultural freedom. In fact they have been subject to two agreements between India and Sri Lanka in 1964 and 1974 providing for about half of the 1,200,000 to return to India and for the remainder to acquire Sri Lankan citizenship. Neither side of the bargain has yet been fulfilled or is welcomed by those concerned. Many of them are now drifting to the Tamil inhabited north of the island.

The 1,400,000 Ceylon Tamils have been in the north and east of the island as long as the Sinhalese: both communities were probably simultaneous emigrants from the Indian main-

land. In the past they filled government and professional posts out of proportion to their numbers. They were similarly more numerous in universities. It is not surprising that the strongest protest at the barriers now placed against them should come from this articulate class. They find that all Sinhalese political parties now treat them with "demagogic cynicism".

Mr Schwarz finds that it is their fears for the future that now agitate them. He notes, however, that Tamil pride has tended to evade any surrender to the conditions now imposed upon them. Thus it is Tamil leaders who are resisted the teaching of Sinhalese in schools in the Tamil majority areas of the north, and this has led to a loss of university places for Tamils because they are not proficient in Sinhalese.

The Sri Lanka government's answer to Tamil protest is that changes in Sinhalese in schools brought the Sinhalese nearer to equality with the Tamils and that relations could be much better if Tamil politicians with a vested interest in tension were not so active. Mr Schwarz believes that Tamil grievances are indeed sometimes exaggerated. He has no simple answer to offer, but that there must be more compromise and moderation on both sides.

Failing this he sees a new deterioration in community relations. The Tamil Youth League was banned in 1973 after it had adopted a policy of separatism for the Tamil areas, but young Tamils still see their future in some vague form of a Bangladesh breakaway. This would neither be feasible nor acceptable across the water in the Tamil Nadu state of India, quite apart from outright opposition from the Sinhalese. Moreover a fifth of the Tamil population belong to the untouchable and tend to vote with left-wing Sinhalese parties rather than the Tamil United Front.

A moderate approach by a united Tamil community, therefore, may be still remote. The alternative hope might be that Buddhist extremism and the promotion of Sinhalese as a language will begin to lose its attractions. Undoubtedly the country loses by not using the Tamil language, but so do the South-east Asian countries who circumscribe the Chinese in their midst. Envy is a powerful emotion and the Tamils of Sri Lanka may have to live with it, even if it means leaving Sinhalese.

Richard Harris

Mrs Thatcher must make Mr Heath an offer he cannot refuse

Bernard Levin

What does the Conservative Party think it is up to? At a time when the country is being dragged towards chaos by the most incompetent, divided and dishonest Government of modern times, when around and even within that very Government there are people whose implacable determination it is to destroy the very basis of our parliamentary democracy, when the only response to the most serious economic crisis in Britain's history is the institution of a policy the fundamental meaning of which the Government has not troubled to establish in advance, so that ministers have to go about bleating that it means the opposite of what is understood by those to whom it is supposed to apply, at such a time, members of the only credible alternative Government party are sitting about glowering at one another, some of them apparently thinking that the party's energies ought to be devoted to getting rid of the leader they have so recently elected, and some of those imagining that they ought not only to get rid of the present leader but to replace her with the one who has succeeded seven months ago.

I do not know whether Mr Heath supposes that there is a serious possibility of his being restored to his position as leader, but I might as well say plainly that if he does think that, he is mad, and if he thinks he is going to become Prime Minister of some kind of Coalition Government, he is even madder. What is more, those who encourage such beliefs in him are not doing him any service, and are doing the Tory Party and the country great harm. Indeed, great harm has already been done in both by Mr Heath's prolonged fit of the sulks, and that remains true even if we accept the most extreme Heathite version of the dispute over the supposed offer of a Front Bench post, since even if Mrs Thatcher did not formally ask him to join the Shadow Cabinet it was already quite clear that he would not do so even if she did. Mr

Heath would be an admirable Shadow Foreign Secretary or Minister for Europe or for Industry, but he makes a singularly unconvincing Bonaparte Prince Charlie. The Hanoverians are here to stay, and even if some unprecedented catastrophe should overtake the entire house, the Stuarts have lost too many battles to have any hope of being recalled.

The Jacobite reply consists of the assertion that the dynamic struggle is not a matter of personalities but of policies, and that Mr Heath and his followers genuinely and irreconcilably disagree with Mrs Thatcher and hers, not on the details of this or that programme but on the fundamental nature of the Conservative and its role in the present crisis. On this argument, it is hardly more use asking Mr Heath to pocket his pride and throw his considerable weight into seeing that the Tory Party wins the next election than it would be to ask him to lend all his influence to seeing that it is won by the Labour Party under Mr Wilson.

Now apart from the fact that the way Mr Heath and his friends are behaving makes it increasingly likely that the Labour Party under Mr Wilson will win the next election, there are two answers to that argument. The first, and less important, is that it isn't true. Of course, there are deep differences within the Tory Party, and on very important matters, but the differences on economic policy between, say, Mr Heath and Sir Keith Joseph are not so deep as those between, say, Mr Benn and Mr Healey. Mrs Thatcher does not intend, as she becomes Prime Minister, to enact the entire economic philosophy of Ludwig von Mises, or even of Mr Enoch Powell; nor, for that matter, does she intend to do so. If she becomes Prime Minister, she will have to choose between the line of Cuba's If the Conservative Party has moved to the right since the present Government took office,

that has been largely a response to the Labour Party's drunken lurch to the left, and the election of Mrs Thatcher was more a symptom than a cause. Even the recent passage-at-arms between Mr Heath and Sir Keith demonstrates far less of a difference than appears on the surface, even though Sir Keith was arguing that there was less unemployment than the figures suggested, and Mr Heath was insisting that there was more. For Sir Keith's main point is that many of those counted as unemployed are not truly so, and Mr Heath's is that many of those really are; those two claims are not incompatible, and as a matter of fact they are both true.

But there is another reason for despair at the present factionalism of the Tories. Whatever their differences, the danger that faces the country is considerably more important. If a man's house is on fire, the first thing he has to do is to put it out—he can argue about who started it later. There is no point in his doing which only the Tories can do, and they cannot do it unless they collectively recognize that wherever they wish to go they have to start from where they are. Mrs Thatcher is their leader; there is no room for argument about her quality and achievement, but for none about that fact. And it is about time that some of those still disgruntled by the fall of Mr Heath, starting with Mr Heath himself, showed themselves to recognize that fact. Nor is any use their saying that, until the policy argument is settled, the leadership argument cannot be. On the contrary, the leadership argument was settled in February: in a secret ballot, to have enabled the party to get on with its potentially fruitful policy argument, and it is a measure of the weakened sense of reality among some of Mr Heath's followers (and possibly Mr Heath himself) to have that they can not only miss that point but seriously

believe that the Tories in Parliament will reverse the decision they made so recently and so unequivocally. What do these people suppose that the Tories made Mrs Thatcher leader for? Her party's defeat, her own figure, her blonde curls? No; they made her leader because they believed in her, and in a particular kind of change, and she offered it.

But suppose they now think they were mistaken? Well, turn the question the other way about: why does Mr Heath suppose they got rid of him? Because he took the advice of the Western Soviet too far, or failed to read his binoculars properly in the Admiral's Cup? No; they got rid of him because they felt he had lost too many elections and would not listen to advice. Well, he has won any election since that, has he not? And by all accounts he has not listened to any advice either. And he has not suddenly been reborn simply because he has made two excellent speeches in the House of Commons and conducted a powerful pro-European campaign during the referendum. (And the attention given to those phenomena by his seconds suggest that they have not yet given up hope of balancing soap bubbles on his pins.)

It would do Mrs Thatcher (and the Tory Party) much good to remember the fact that she was elected as the Shadow Cabinet leader, and she would make Mr Heath an unambiguous offer of a post worthy of his considerable talents. It would do him (and the Tory Party) much good if, offered such a post, he would accept it. It is doing neither of them any good, and the country much harm, to continue with the present state of affairs. "Be friends, you English fools, be friends," says Prince Bazaroff, and he might as well add: "Be friends, you Tories, be friends, you English fools, be friends." Let Mrs Thatcher and Mr Heath like take those words to heart. Unless, of course, they prefer those of Private Williams: "We see you're the beginning of the day, but I think we shall never see the end of it."

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The Times Diary

Luck, skill and a lot of venom

Foreigners catching their boat trains from Fenchurch Street station to Tilbury yesterday found platforms three and four cluttered with Britons clinging far, make-believe fortunes. The first round of the British Monopoly championships were played out with trains arriving and departing alongside every 20 minutes.

The 240 competitors had qualified by answering a quiz with questions like "What are the chances against throwing a double six?" and "Has Communism anything to do with Raquel Welch's bust?" Only about one in 40 answered seven such questions correctly.

Some of the finalists had little idea of the rules of the game. Bankers, provided by the National Westminster, and stewards from the firm who market the game in Britain were kept busy adjudicating disputes.

"We are not looking for skilled or experienced players," said one of the organizers. "To win in Monopoly you need a bit of luck, an element of skill, and a lot of venom."

Bankruptcies began within an hour. Paul Copestake, from Merseyside, one of the first to go under, explained that he had only been able to buy three properties from the bank, and had finally staked everything on buying up the Vine Street (orange) set of streets from a rival. "They offer the highest return on least investment," he claimed, but he ran out of cash on the very next throw.

One of the referees said that an American student had borrowed time on a Kennedy Centre computer and had calculated that anyone who could buy up the yellow and green

roads on the board was bound to win the game. But he could not find anyone following that tactic.

Although Monopoly has a reputation for dragging on for days, an epd, five games had finished within two hours. The first outright winner was John Noble, managing director of a wire and cable company from Stourbridge. He bankrupted his opponents in 105 minutes, but promptly retired from the competition to return to the real business of making money. "I have to see some French customers this afternoon," he said, "but it has been fun."

Fare deal

Margaret Thatcher went to unusual lengths to show her support for free enterprise when she flew across the Atlantic for her present task. She was determined to fly by privately owned Laker Airways, and not by the nationalized British Airways, but Laker did only round trip charters which did not fit her schedule.

She wanted to fly from London to New York and return to London via New York. The title "London Taxi Driver of the Year" was being bestowed upon Terry Higgins from Haddenham.

Higgins is a conscientious cabbie, who took a training course as a London guide so that he would be able to give

his fares a reliable flow of interesting information. An owner-driver, he is known as a "musher" in the trade, "presumably because we have to keep driving along to make any money, like the sledge-team driver who calls 'Mush! Mush!' at his dogs."

He won his new and more flattering title by answering a trivia examination, driving an obstacle course, and then taking his cab round a list of check-points for the lowest possible fare. He was expected to know the weight and fuel capacity of his cab, the whereabouts of Grosvenor Bridge (one of the railway bridges over the Thames), and how much additional he should charge for a golf bag, a push chair and two children under six.

Off duty

The Customs and Excise Art Club exhibition of paintings and drawings opened at the Royal Exchange yesterday, proving that many of Her Majesty's revenue collectors are as capable as heart. Landscapes and water colours provide the backbone of the exhibition, and there are no pictures of customs sheds or smugglers' caves. The only remotely work-related picture was a rather academic study of the Customs House at Falmouth.

The Customs and Excise department increased its numbers by a third with the introduction of VAT, but the increase was not reflected in membership of the art club.

"You can't make much of a picture out of VAT," said the president of the club sorrow-

fully, "though I think that the main reason for the increase in the number of customs officers is the need to have more customs officers to deal with the increase in the number of customs officers."

Top musher

On Sunday night the best taxi drivers and most well-maintained cabs in London converged on the new Westmoreland Hotel at Lords. The title "London Taxi Driver of the Year" was being bestowed upon Terry Higgins from Haddenham.

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To discuss this further, contact Richard Strong.

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Pat Martin
ex RCA
is now working for
McCaul's
who had an excellent
range of high fashion
and well priced
knitwear and tops.
Here she
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the straight slit neck.

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Brazil, Cameroun, Canada,
Carriacou, Cayman Islands,
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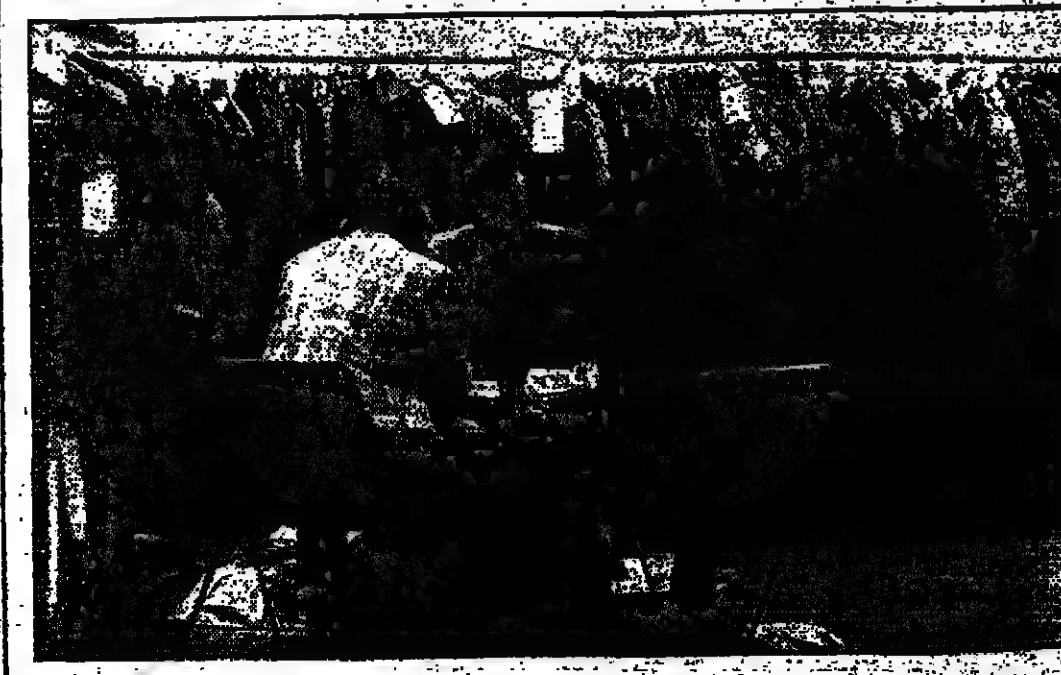
Top of page: The biggest seller in the younger, high fashion scene. Three piece suit, single breasted but with wide lapels.

Above right: Conversation piece belt buckles from Lyntons.

Above left: Birmingham bags is what I am assured these trousers, which I have always thought of as Art College, are called. By B. L. Griffiths.

Left: Brian Mack, joint managing director of Mack Brooks Exhibitions Ltd. Trying to meet the needs of different groups.

Pictures by Harry Kerr



Above: What it is really all about.

هكذا من العمل

Stock Exchange prices

Late reaction in equities

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Sept 22. Dealings End Oct 3. § Comango Day, Oct 6. Settlement Day, Oct 14.
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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For Really Discerning Drinkers
HIGH&DRY
Really Dry Gin

[illegible]

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Sharp fall in second quarter's GDP confirms verity of recession

Congdon domestic product in fell sharply in the quarter according to figures released yesterday by the Central Statistical Office. On the output-based estimate, the decline from the quarter was about 2.3 per cent. The drop between the two was as large as that by the three-day week in the fourth quarter of 1974. The severity and the extent of the present recession have been confirmed by these figures.

level. Forecasts of employment have had to be revised downwards in line with the more disturbing prospects for output. Apart from the three-day week, there has been no fall in the last two quarters as large as the latest one since GDP estimates were first compiled in 1958. The current downturn is the most powerful since the 1930s.

GDP				
Gross domestic product at constant factor (1973=100) and seasonally adjusted.				
	Based on expenditure data	Based on income data	Based on output data	Average of three
1973	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1974	101.0	100.5	99.3	100.3
Q1	101.7	99.8	100.2	100.6
Q2	99.7	100.5	99.4	99.9
Q3	99.9	99.7	100.3	100.0
Q4	98.8	100.0	100.1	99.6
1975				
Q1	98.0	95.5	97.5	97.0
Q2	101.2	100.6	99.7	100.5
Q3	103.4	102.8	100.6	102.3
Q4	101.3	103.3	99.3	101.3
1975				
Q1	101.6	100.8	99.0	100.4
Q2	99.3	98.3	96.3	98.0

The Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin, published last Thursday, suggested that this unusually vigorous desinflation process is unlikely to continue for much longer and argued that, if it were to come to an end, a severe brake on output will have been removed. Most economic forecasters are not expecting further falls in output.

The TMC to take 500 redundant

alcolm Brown
TMC is to make 500 years redundant during the next six months by closing its factory at Dulwich, in south London.

neers' institutions
Harold Wilson has told his Labour and Conservative MPs for Bristol North that the Government's proposals for the restructuring of engineering and electrical engineering institutions are "a very serious matter".

ortium gives up
Exploration licence
The British Petroleum Exploration Company (BPEC) has given up its licence to explore for oil and gas in the North Sea.

Abu Dhabi minister against big price rise

By Roger Vialovoy
Energy Correspondent
Mane Saad al-Otaibi, Abu Dhabi's Oil Minister, yesterday said that the Government's policy of oil price rises is "not in line with the interests of the country".

£10m Coventry issue at 134pc
After the recent £15m issue of loan stock by Ilington, the City of Coventry is now seeking to raise £10m through an issue at 134 per cent, due to mature in 1980.

State still owes £3.2m for Court Line assets

By Maurice Corina
Industrial Editor
Although it is a year since the Government announced that the purchase of Court Line's shipbuilding interests had been completed, the Department of Industry still has not paid the full £3.2m consideration for nationalizing them.

New buffer stock chiefs named by Tin Council
By Wallace Jackson
Commodities Editor
Appointments of a new buffer stock manager and a deputy were announced by the International Tin Council yesterday.

Americans believed buying into Hambros

By Christopher Wilkins and Peter Wright
A significant share stake in Hambros Bank, a leading accepting house, is believed to have been acquired by American interests.

Bid likely for Burmah's American interests
By Andrew Goodrick-Clarke
Financial Editor
America's leading cigarette maker, R. J. Reynolds Industries, yesterday indicated that it might be willing to bid for Burmah Oil's important businesses in the United States.

How the markets moved
The Times index : 144.82 + 1.55
The FT index : 344.7 + 1.1

EEC attack on US 'protectionist' threats to £2,200m-a-year exports

From David Cross
Brussels, Sept 22
More than one-fifth of the EEC's traditional exports to the United States, worth \$4,300m (about £2,200m) a year, are now liable to be affected by American protectionist measures, the European Commission said today.

Dollar continues its strong rise
The dollar resumed its strong rise against most other major currencies when the foreign exchange resumed trading yesterday after the weekend break. Sterling closed at \$2.0715, its weakest level against the dollar and down a net 95 points.

NEB will not be a soft touch, Lord Ryder says
Lord Ryder said yesterday that companies needing financial assistance would not find the National Enterprise Board a soft touch.

Devaluation of rand slows fall in gold price

By Mervyn Westlake
There was a brief fall in the gold price yesterday morning after Sunday's news of a sharp devaluation of the South African rand. But the improvement was not sustained, and the price later resumed its downward trend on world bullion markets, closing in London at \$135.75 a ounce, a net fall of 75 cents compared with Friday's night—a smaller drop than registered on any single day last week.

Swiss franc nearer link with 'snake'
From Our Own Correspondent
Brussels, Sept 22
Plans for the Swiss franc to join the EEC's system of jointly floating currencies took a significant step forward today with Swiss and Community finance ministers agreeing that it would be a good idea.

Raybeck Limited
* Continued growth and expansion of all divisions.
* Major new shop openings during the year.
* First retail store opened in Scotland.
* Sales increase 28% over last year.
* Profit increase 13% over last year.
* Sales to date well above corresponding levels of last year.
* Unless there is a major set-back in the economic life of this Country I am confident of further growth and expansion.

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Rothschild Investment Trust Limited

Salient features of the Annual Report

	years to 31st March 1975	1974
Group Revenue for the year before Taxation	£3,023,000	£2,322,000
Group Revenue for the year after Taxation	£1,719,000	£1,619,000
Net Asset Value per £1 Ordinary Share		
— pre conversion	450p	460p
— post conversion	445p	443p
Earnings per £1 Ordinary Share		
— basic	13.9p	12.8p
— fully diluted	14.0p	13.5p
Dividends per £1 Ordinary Share (net)	9.50p	9.5p

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Ben Raven—Chairman

	1975	1974
Year ended	26 April	27 April
Group turnover	£1,600	£1,000
Group profit before taxation	3,363	2,978
Group profit after taxation	1,523	1,434
Earnings per share	8.52p	7.98p
Dividend per share	2.49p	2.34p

How the markets moved

The Times index : 144.82 + 1.55
The FT index : 344.7 + 1.1

THE POUND

	Bank	Bank
	buyers	sell
Australia	1.70	1.64
Austria	40.00	38.00
Belgium	27.50	24.75
Canada	2.18	2.13
Denmark	13.00	12.60
France	8.25	7.95
Germany	5.50	5.40
Greece	70.75	68.50
Italy	1580.00	1525.00
Japan	655.00	630.00
Netherlands	5.75	5.55
Norway	12.00	11.65
Portugal	72.00	67.00
S. Africa	2.10	1.91
Spain	125.50	120.50
Sweden	9.50	9.30
Switzerland	5.80	5.60
US	2.125	1.075
Yugoslavia	40.25	38.25

Rates for small denomination bank notes and coins, as quoted by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Mines after a rand devaluation

ation of the South African Rand was given a mixed on in the gold share of the London market lay, reflecting uncertainty over the precise effects of gold mines themselves, so over the way in which investors were likely to react.

Just sight the outlook for gold is good. The 17.9 per cent rise in the rand translates into a 17.9 per cent rise in the price of gold. The rand summing a maintained gold price of \$190, that have very considerable implications for the profitability of the more marginal mines. Not that the revenue looks likely to be used to bring all of them out of the ground.

West Rand Consolidated, Durban Deep and Anglo American, for instance, are all in the money. But others, such as Sishen and Grootvlei, should be pulled into the current gold price. The latter was of the fall but out at \$145 an ounce, selling, apparently by the Americans have forced the price lower and now the price of \$120 or may be \$100, estimates have the devaluation of the rand would be more than offset.

But, the price of the share is not just made up. Because the devaluation of the rand is made with an eye on the gold market, the price of the share is not just made up. Because the devaluation of the rand is made with an eye on the gold market, the price of the share is not just made up. Because the devaluation of the rand is made with an eye on the gold market, the price of the share is not just made up.

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Low & Bonar Canadian reversal

Low & Bonar's bid for Nairn Williamson was swiftly topped last week, and the group's latest interim results show that it is wished to be in the hunt. It might have had some difficulty in increasing the paper element to counter Unilever.

Pre-tax profits dipped from £3.4m to £2.5m, while the drop in the share price, which was the last of the year, was a sizeable minority element, the damage at the net level has been limited to a fall from £1.25m to just £1.1m.

Packaging, accounting for some two-fifths of group sales, suffered in the wake of a deepening recession in Canada during the first half, resulting in a 58 per cent drop in profits there. But, partly offsetting this, the United Kingdom turned in £372,000, against £213,000, while Africa was up from just under £1m to £1.2m.

By product area, packaging, the largest, was unrelentingly down, while the other two, engineering and textiles, were up. Engineering, however, was well up at £68m, while the textile interests held their own at £1.6m.

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Rising unemployment is forcing out of work the blind, the maimed and the chronically sick - just as it is the able-bodied. In June the percentage of unemployed among the 567,000 on the disabled persons' register was 12.1, when the national rate was 3.6.

The national rate is now 5.2 and while the disabled rate is tending to rise more slowly, it seems probable that one in six of those on the register are now without jobs.

More than half of disabled workers are not registered and the proportion of unemployment among them may be somewhat smaller. Nevertheless, it is disturbing that so many of those who have overcome physical or mental difficulties to take their place in the working community are now finding their efforts of no avail.

There are renewed demands, some of them at this month's Trades Union Congress, for the Government to show more urgency in updating its policies for the employment of the disabled, about which discussions have now been going on for five years.

After two years of study the Department of Employment planning and research section began in 1972 to present a series of discussion papers to the National Advisory Council for the Employment of the Disabled. So far no decisions have been taken, though it is hoped that announcements will be made before the end of this year.

The quota scheme was started under the Disabled Persons Act of 1944, which is still in force. It put an obligation on every employer of 20 or more people to include a quota of registered disabled, which,

since 1946, has been fixed at 3 per cent.

If the employer is below the quota he must not engage a worker who is not on the register without a permit. But for years the Act has not been enforced. In 1972 about 35,000 companies, substantially more than half of those affected, were not maintaining their quota.

They could not all do so because there are fewer than 3 per cent of their total workforces on the register. But many were recruiting able-bodied men without permits and waiting action being taken against them.

The simple solution, advocated by the TUC, is to enforce the quota. But the Department of Employment discussion paper on the subject pointed out that the main result might be for employers to insist that unregistered disabled among their workers should register, which many do, not without action being taken against them.

Among alternatives envisaged, each of them with its own difficulties and disadvantages, were to reduce the quota to 2 or 2.5 per cent and to allow unregistered disabled to count for the quota, to impose a levy on employers not meeting the quota or to subsidize those who do.

Most, but not all the settlement officers seem to prefer the last, even though the existing

quota is 3 per cent.

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Making sure the disabled get their fair share of work

Eric Wigham

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The List of Applications will open at 10 a.m. on Thursday, 25th September, 1975. This issue is made in accordance with a General Consent given by the Treasury under the Control of Borrowing Order 1955. Application has been made to the Council of the Stock Exchange for the Stock to be issued to be admitted to the Official List.

CITY OF COVENTRY

ISSUE OF

**£10,000,000 City of Coventry Council
13½ per cent. Redeemable Stock 1980**

Authorised by Resolution of the City of Coventry Council and issued in accordance with the Local Government Act 1973 and the Local Authority Stock and Bonds Regulations 1974.

Price of Issue £99.50 per cent.

Payable as follows:
On Application £100 per cent.
On 22nd October, 1975 £20 per cent.
On 13th December, 1975 £20 per cent.
On 22nd January, 1976 £20 per cent.
On 22nd February, 1976 £20 per cent.

Interest (less income tax) will be payable half-yearly on 15th June and 15th December. A final interest payment of £6.75 (less income tax) per £100 Stock will be made on 15th June, 1980. The Stock is an interest-bearing instrument in the form of a Stock Certificate.

Barclays Bank (London and International) Limited, New Issues Department, 125, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3AG, will act as the Agent for the issue and redemption of the Stock.

1. **SECURITY.**—The Stock and interest thereon will be secured upon all the assets of the City of Coventry Council. The Stock will rank equally with all securities of the City of Coventry Council.
2. **REDEMPTION.**—The Stock will be redeemed in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1973 and the Local Authority Stock and Bonds Regulations 1974.
3. **PURPOSE OF ISSUE.**—The proceeds of the issue of the Stock will be applied to finance the City of Coventry Council's general fund.

4. **INTEREST.**—Interest (less income tax) will be paid half-yearly on 15th June and 15th December. A final interest payment of £6.75 (less income tax) per £100 Stock will be made on 15th June, 1980.

5. **APPLICATIONS AND GENERAL ARRANGEMENTS.**—Applications on the printed application form must be made to the Agent, Barclays Bank (London and International) Limited, New Issues Department, 125, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3AG.

6. **APPLICANTS MUST BE A MINIMUM OF 1000 STOCK OR IN MULTIPLES OF 1000 FOR APPLICATIONS TO BE MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING SCALE:**
Applications above £25,000 Stock and not exceeding £50,000 Stock in multiples of £5,000.
Applications above £50,000 Stock and not exceeding £100,000 Stock in multiples of £10,000.
Applications above £100,000 Stock and not exceeding £250,000 Stock in multiples of £25,000.

7. **AGENTS.**—Barclays Bank (London and International) Limited, New Issues Department, 125, Abchurch Lane, London EC4N 3AG, will act as the Agent for the issue and redemption of the Stock.

8. **STAMP DUTY.**—Stamp duty will be paid by the City of Coventry Council. The Agent will be responsible for the payment of stamp duty on the Stock.

9. **STAMP DUTY RESERVE FUND.**—The City of Coventry Council will maintain a reserve fund for the payment of stamp duty on the Stock.

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Equities continue to advance in day of heavy turnover

The renewed advance in the equity market was taken a stage further yesterday, when both private and institutional buyers came in for stock in most sections of the market. The new account made an impressive start, although there was a sharp correction in late dealings as the buyers withdrew and jobbers took the opportunity to mark prices down to attract stock.

The FT 100, which ended at 350.1, 2.00 p.m. closed at 344.7, with the early gain of nearly seven points reduced to a mere 1.1. Dealers sounded cautious yesterday evening, and leading shares are likely to open lower today.

Shares in Lublok Investments dipped to 29p as the market assessed the implications of Mr Jim Slater's sale of some 2.5m shares, nearly one half of his personal holding in Lublok.

But the best news of the day was the increase in the total of marked bargains, which at 3.415, reached its highest levels for three months. Even more encouraging was the volume total for Friday of 193.1m, the highest figure recorded since June 6—virtually the 1975 peak of the equity market.

The only doubt expressed by the dealers was that a high level of marked bargains suggests a high proportion of private investment business, particularly on the first day of a new trading account.

The good share pitch had a nervous day following the devaluation of the S. African rand. Most sources took the view that the move must be bearish. But the major factor for gold shares is the bullion price, and bearish views on this are a reflection of the IMF decision, and of world market forces rather than of S. African domestic factors.

However, gold shares were struck down by £1 or 50 before the market opened. By mid-morning, however, higher prices in Johannesburg were filtering through to London, and early losses were quickly reduced.

By the close, many gold shares had managed net gains, although there were signs of United States selling in late dealings.

On balance gold shares remained easier on the day. But losses in President Steyn (£13.5) and Western Areas (320p), Bracken Mines (200p), were small.

But South African industrial shares—which are thin markets in London—fell sharply and could make no recovery. Amalgamated Collieries (350p) were down by 100p, and other weak spots included De Beers Industrial (375p) and Pretoria Portland Cement (150p). A notable firm was weak in the S. African market, the diamond group, which jumped to 250p on the hope that diamond sales will benefit from the latest developments.

Leading industrials closed under their best levels after seeing an excellent two way trade—a trend still missing in past months, when the absence of sellers—or buyers—on any particular day has often caused share prices to over react.

ICI finally 3p up at 29p, had touched 29.4p. Courtaulds 4p up at 139p had been to 141p, and Unilever, at 402p had been 3p higher. At 322p, shares in Beecham were firm throughout.

On the engineering "pitch", GKN rallied further from the upset which followed publication of the interim report. At 225p, the shares ended 5p higher. Babcock & Wilcox (123p) proved unable to hold all early gains, and Pilkington Brothers (263p) was another in suffer profit takers in the last hour of trading.

Shares in EMI did well again at first but slipped back to close unchanged at 201p (after 205p). Rank Organisation issues had a quieter session as last week's upsurge died down.

Half year results from Booker McConnell were well received, although the shares were to some extent overwhelmed by the upsurge in the market. At 164p, Booker closed 6p higher, having matched the best hopes with a 20 per cent rise in profits. Other consumer shares looked cautious—Cavendish (151p), Marks & Spencer (113p), Boots (130p) added a few pence without attracting a great deal of trade. Rowntree, due to report tomorrow on first half trading edged forward.

Bank shares recovered from recent weakness. Lloyds (340p) gained a further 10p, and there was interest in Hambros shares at 195p. Insurance issues boiled over in late deals, when there were unspecified rumours that a hurricane was approaching.

Gilt had an uneventful day. Business was at low levels and price changes were infrequent and small. "Shorts" were particularly quiet, with most stock unchanged. The coupon rate on the 1975-76 issue is expected to be 11½ per cent. Equity turnover on Friday was worth £93.1m (19,234 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were ICI, BP, Beecham, Sunbeam, Shell, GEC, Court, Aardis, Grand Metropolitan, ordinary and Ultramar.

With the interim report due next Monday, Fisons shares put on 10p to 300p. Investors were also attracted by Fisons's plans to expand in proprietary medicines in the United Kingdom.

(104p) and British Land (23½p) finding buyers.

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Latest dividends

Company	Ord	Year	Pay	Year's	Prev
A.B. Electronics (25p) Fin	2.05	2.05	5/6	4.10	4.10
Black & Edgington (50p) Int	2.75	2.48	2/1	4.10	4.10
Booker McConnell (50p) Int	2.75	2.48	2/1	4.10	4.10
John Laing (25p) Int	0.5	2.48	2/1	4.10	4.10
Low & Bonar (50p) Int	2.75	2.48	2/1	4.10	4.10
Mila Marsters (50p) Int	4.2	1.6	13/11	6.3	5.9
Parker Knoll (25p) Fin	1.9	1.6	7/11	2.67	2.46
Spear & Jackson (25p) Int	1.38	1.10	22/11	3.81	3.81
Services	5.1	5.5	22/11	15.26	15.26
Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross, multiply the net dividend by 1.54. Adjusted for scrip.					

because of seasonal variations in sales and profits.

Total group sales are rather higher than for the same time last year, though the pattern varies throughout the divisions. Overdrafts are currently £1.5m less than this time last year.

Earnings near-trebled at Assoc Manganese

Associated Manganese Mines of South Africa more than trebled its pre-tax income in the six months to June 30—

from £3.45m to £10.8m on turnover up a third to £31.7m. At attributable level, the profit was £5.26m, against £1.95m, equivalent to earnings a share of 165c, compared with 61c. Prices received for ores and alloys were generally higher than a year ago.

Flush year for Lehman

The old-established privately-controlled New York banking house, Lehman Brothers, expects the year ending September 30 to be the second most profitable in its history, the board told employees in a confidential memorandum. Sources in the firm estimated that pre-tax "net" might reach \$26m. This would follow a profitable 1973-74 and an estimated \$6m loss the year before that.

Empress Services hit

Higher costs and an inability to increase contract prices in the second half year reduced the pre-tax profit of Empress Services (Holdings) from £225,400 to £111,700 in the full year to March 31. The group, with interests in office and industrial cleaning, did, however, report turnover up from £2.87m to £3.22m. The group has cut the final dividend to 0.26p from 0.70p, making the total 0.67p against 1.10p.

Black & Edgington

The pre-tax profits of Black & Edgington, the camping leisurewear group, reached £511,000 in the 26 weeks to June 30, against £779,000 for the previous 36 weeks. The interim rises from 3.7p to 4.23p.

The board says that comparing the two results is difficult

for a producers' price increase. In the United States producer stocks at the end of August, at 98.157 short tons, were more than four times higher than in August, 1974. Stocks in London Metal Exchange warehouses—£3,675,575—were nearly double the total being carried a year ago.

A bullish view on copper prospects

Against a background of falling copper consumption in the United Kingdom—down 10.7 per cent to 350,321 metric tons in the first seven months of 1975, compared with 1974—and a steady rise in stocks, there is some slight cheer in the views. Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman and chief executive of Ammax, has been expressing in the United States where some major producers report some improvement in demand, although stocks represent three months' supply.

Consumers, Mr MacGregor considers, have shifted the burden of carrying stocks to the producers and an upturn in business could bring consumers back into the market and, as stocks are depleted by increased activity, there could be a scramble for supplies.

He holds firmly to the view that the copper market is poised for an upswing and expects prices to rise sharply in the next three to six months.

Wallace Jackson
Commodities Editor

Wall Street

New York, Sept. 22.—The stock market was mixed today, continuing its retreat from moderate gains earlier in the session. At 3:00 p.m., the Dow Jones Industrial Average was 2.04 points lower at 827.75.

Eli Lilly was off 54¢ at 556¢. The company said late last Friday it expected a flat 1975 earnings. In addition, a published report today said the Food and Drug Administration is studying the possibility of imposing strict controls on one of its drugs—Darvon.

Doi Point was down 21¢ at 1131¢, while IBM and Eastman Kodak surrendered fractions—Reuters.

Commodities

In their latest review of precious metals, J. Aron & Co., of New York, writing of the current situation and outlook for platinum—"hitherto the weak member" of the precious metals complex—say that the bright feature of the industrial demand picture for platinum this year has been higher Japanese absorption.

Imports into Japan in the second quarter accelerated by 32 per cent over the first quarter to 413,979 troy ounces and, on an annual basis, are running well ahead of the previous record level of 1,335,350 ounces achieved in 1973.

